CITIZENS COMMUNITY BANCORP Form DEF 14A May 13, 2005

> UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.\_)

	d by the Registrant [X] Filed by a Party other than the Registrant [ ] ck the appropriate box:
[ ]	Preliminary Proxy Statement
[ ]	Confidential, for Use of the SEC Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
[X]	Definitive Proxy Statement
[ ]	Definitive Additional Materials
[ ]	Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12
	Citizens Community Bancorp
	me of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)
(Naı	me of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)
Payı	ment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):
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1) 2)	Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies: Common Stock
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3)	Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:  Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
<ul><li>3)</li><li>4)</li></ul>	Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the
	Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
4)	Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):  Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:  Total fee paid:

was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

1) Amount previously paid: \$1,172.00

2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.: PRE14A

3) Filing Party: Citizens Community Bancorp

4) Date Filed: March 17, 2005

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#### [CITIZENS COMMUNITY BANCORP LETTERHEAD]

#### YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT

May 13, 2005

#### Dear Shareholder:

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting of shareholders of Citizens Community Bancorp. The meeting will be held at the Citizens Community Federal offices at Banbury Place, Building D-02, Suite 319, 800 Wisconsin Street, Eau Claire, Wisconsin on Thursday, June 16, 2005, at 10:00 a.m., local time.

At the special meeting, you will be asked to approve the issuance of 715,391 additional shares of our common stock, subject to adjustment, to Citizens Community MHC in connection with a merger of Community Plus Savings Bank, Rochester Hills, Michigan into our subsidiary, Citizens Community Federal.

The completion of the merger with Community Plus Savings Bank is subject to certain conditions, including the approval of the proposal to issue additional shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC by the affirmative vote of our outstanding shares of common stock, excluding shares held by Citizens Community MHC. We urge you to read the attached proxy statement carefully. It describes the merger agreement in detail and includes a copy of the merger agreement as Appendix A.

Our board of directors has unanimously approved the merger agreement and recommends that you vote "FOR" approval of the proposal to issue additional shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC in connection with the merger.

It is important that your shares are represented at this meeting, whether or not you attend the meeting in person and regardless of the number of shares you own. To make sure your shares are represented, we urge you to complete and mail the enclosed proxy card promptly. If you attend the meeting, you may vote in person even if you have previously mailed a proxy card.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

/s/ James G. Cooley

James G. Cooley

President and Chief Executive Officer

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#### CITIZENS COMMUNITY BANCORP

2174 EastRidge Center

Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

(715) 836-9994

#### NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To be held on June 16, 2005

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of shareholders of Citizens Community Bancorp will be held at Citizens Community Federal's offices at Banbury Place, Building D-02, Suite 319, 800 Wisconsin Street, Eau Claire Wisconsin, on June 16, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. local time.

#### A proxy card and a proxy statement for the special meeting are enclosed.

The special meeting is for the purpose of considering and voting on the following proposal:

The approval of the issuance of 715,391 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value, of Citizens Community Bancorp, subject to adjustment, to Citizens Community MHC pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of January 6, 2005, by and among Citizens Community MHC, Citizens Community Bancorp, Citizens Community Federal and Community Plus Savings Bank, pursuant to which Community Plus Savings Bank will merge with and into Citizens Community Federal.

Shareholders also will transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting, or any adjournment or postponement thereof. As of the date of this notice, we are not aware of any other business to come before the special meeting.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on May 6, 2005, as the record date for the special meeting. This means that shareholders of record at the close of business on that date are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the meeting and any adjournment thereof. To ensure that your shares are represented at the meeting, please take the time to vote by signing, dating and mailing the enclosed proxy card, which is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors. The proxy will not be used if you attend and vote at the special meeting in person. Regardless of the number of shares you own, your vote is very important. Please act today.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

/s/ James G. Cooley

James G. Cooley

President and Chief Executive Officer

Eau Claire, Wisconsin May 13, 2005

Important: The prompt return of proxies will save us the expense of further requests for proxies to ensure a quorum at the special meeting. A pre-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience. No postage is required if mailed within the United States.

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#### **Questions and Answers About the Meeting**

Question: What am I being asked to vote on and how does the board of directors recommend that I vote?

**Answer:** You are being asked to vote on one matter:

Our board of directors has determined that the issuance of 715,391 shares of our common stock, subject to adjustment, to Citizens Community MHC as part of the merger with Community Plus Savings Bank is in the best interests of our shareholders and unanimously recommends that you vote "FOR" issuance of the shares.

Question: Why are we merging with Community Plus Savings Bank?

**Answer:** We believe that the merger will benefit our customers, employees and shareholders by creating a stronger financial institution that will be better positioned to compete in the financial services industry by offering its financial products and services in a broader market and through more efficient operations. To review our reasons for the merger in greater detail, see page 18.

Question: What votes are required in connection with the proposed merger?

**Answer:** The Office of Thrift Supervision is requiring the issuance of 715,391 shares of our common stock, subject to adjustment, to Citizens Community MHC to be approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock, as well as a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock, excluding shares owned by Citizens Community MHC. The approval of the merger agreement also requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes eligible to be cast by Community Plus Savings Bank's members.

Question: How will the merger effect my shares?

**Answer:** Your shares will remain outstanding and will not change as a result of the merger. However, as a result of the issuance of 715,391 shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC, our shareholders (except Citizens Community MHC) are expected to experience a dilution in ownership interest of approximately 19.3% when the new shares are issued.

Question: When is the merger expected to be completed?

**Answer:** We expect to complete the merger as soon as practicable after receiving all required shareholder, member and regulatory approvals and after any waiting periods specified in the regulatory approvals have lapsed. We currently expect to complete the merger during the second calendar quarter of 2005.

Question: What are the tax consequences of the merger to me?

**Answer:** You should not recognize any gain or loss for federal income tax purposes solely as a result of the merger or the share issuance.

Question: What should I do now?

**Answer:** After you have carefully read this document, please indicate on your proxy card how you want to vote. Then, sign, date and mail the proxy card in the enclosed prepaid envelope as soon as possible. This will enable your shares to be represented at the meeting.

Question: If my shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee (i.e., in "street name") will my shares automatically be voted for me?

**Answer:** Your broker will not be able to vote your shares, unless you provide instructions on how to vote. You should instruct your broker how to vote your shares, following the directions your broker provides. If you do not provide instructions to your broker on the proposal to issue additional shares, your shares will not be voted, and this will have the effect of voting against the issuance of shares to Citizens Community MHC. Please check the voting form used by your broker to see if it offers telephonic or Internet voting.

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Question: Who can help answer my questions?

Answer: If you want additional copies of this document, or if you want to ask any questions about the merger, you should contact:

Johnny Thompson Citizens Community Bancorp 2174 EastRidge Center Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701 (715) 836-9994

## Summary

This summary highlights selected information from this proxy statement and does not contain all the information that is important to you. For a more complete description of the terms of the proposed merger, we urge you to read carefully the entire document and the other documents to which we refer, including the merger agreement, attached as Appendix A.

### Citizens Community Bancorp Citizens Community Federal Citizens Community MHC

2174 EastRidge Center Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701 (715) 836-9994

#### **Community Plus Savings Bank**

310 W. Tienken Road Rochester Hills, Michigan 48306 (248) 651-8202

#### THE COMPANIES

Citizens Community Bancorp is a federally chartered stock holding company and the parent company of Citizens Community Federal. Citizens Community Federal is a federally chartered stock savings bank headquartered in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Citizens Community Federal operates through ten banking centers servicing the communities of Eau Claire, Buffalo, Jackson, Sauk, Barron and Chippewa Counties in Wisconsin and Blue Earth and Washington Counties in Minnesota. Citizens Community Federal is a community-oriented financial institution serving consumers and small businesses. Currently, 68.4% of our outstanding common stock is owned by Citizens Community MHC, a federally chartered mutual holding company. At December 31, 2004, we had total assets of \$168.5 million, deposits of \$129.1 million and stockholders' equity of \$19.8 million.

Community Plus Savings Bank is a federally chartered mutual savings bank headquartered in Rochester Hills, Michigan. It operates through two banking offices located in Rochester Hills and Lake Orion, Michigan. Community Plus Savings Bank is a community-oriented financial institution serving consumers and small businesses. At December 31, 2004, Community Plus Savings Bank had total assets of \$46.4 million, deposits of \$42.0 million and total equity of \$4.1 million.

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### THE SPECIAL MEETING

Place, Date and Time (page 14)

Purpose of the Meeting (page 14)

Who Can Vote at the Meeting (page 14)

What Vote is Required to Approve the Issuance of Additional Shares of The special meeting of shareholders will be held at Citizens Community Federal's offices located at Banbury Place, Building D-02, Suite 319, 800 Wisconsin Street, Eau Claire, Wisconsin on Thursday, June 16, 2005 at 10:00 a.m., local time.

At the special meeting, you will be asked to approve the issuance of 715,391 shares of our common stock, subject to adjustment, to Citizens Community MHC, and to transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

You can vote at the special meeting if you owned shares of our common stock at the close of business on May 6, 2005. You will be able to cast one vote for each share of our common stock you owned at that time. As of May 6, 2005, there were 3,015,518 shares of our common stock outstanding, including 2,063,100 shares held by Citizens Community MHC.

The Office of Thrift Supervision is requiring the issuance of 715,391 additional shares to be approved by a majority

#### Common Stock (page 14)

of the outstanding shares of our common stock, excluding shares owned by Citizens Community MHC. You can vote your shares by attending the special meeting and voting in person or by completing and mailing the enclosed proxy card. As of May 6, 2005, our directors and executive officers owned approximately 8.1% of our outstanding common stock, or 25.5% of the shares held by persons other than Citizens Community MHC. Citizens Community MHC and each of our directors and executive officers have indicated to us that they intend to vote their shares of common stock in favor of the proposal to issue additional shares.

#### THE MERGER

A copy of the merger agreement is provided as Appendix A to this proxy statement. Please read the entire merger agreement carefully. It is the legal document that governs the merger.

#### **Overview of the Transaction**

In March 2004, we reorganized Citizens Community Federal into a stock savings bank with a mutual holding company structure. As part of that transaction we sold shares to our customers in a subscription offering. The majority of Citizens Community Bancorp's outstanding shares were retained by Citizens Community MHC. As a result of the reorganization, our current organization structure is as follows:

Under the merger agreement, Community Plus Savings Bank will merge with and into Citizens Community Federal. Citizens Community Federal will be the surviving institution. In connection with the merger, we will issue shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC in an amount equal to the value of Community Plus Savings Bank as determined by an independent appraisal.

After the merger, our ownership structure will be as follows:

Each Outstanding Share of Our Common Stock Will Remain Unchanged in the Merger Each of your shares of our common stock will remain outstanding and unchanged in the merger. However, as a result of the issuance of an additional 715,391 shares of our stock (based on the average closing price of our common stock for the fifteen trading days ended on May 6, 2005) to Citizens Community MHC, you are expected to experience a dilution in ownership interest of approximately 19.3% when the new shares are issued.

Members of Community Plus Savings Bank will not receive any shares of our common stock in the merger.

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Issuance of Our Shares to Citizens Community MHC (page 16) In connection with the merger, the Office of Thrift Supervision, as the primary federal regulator of Citizens Community Bancorp, Citizens Community Federal and Community Plus Savings Bank, will require us to issue shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC in an amount equal to the value of Community Plus Savings Bank as determined by an independent appraiser. The independent appraisal has been prepared by RP Financial, LC. ("RP Financial"), Community Plus Savings Bank's financial advisor. RP Financial stated that the preliminary estimate of the value of Community Plus Savings Bank was \$9.25 million as of December 21, 2004. This appraisal was finalized later, on January 21, 2005. Based on the \$15.09 average closing price of our common stock for the fifteen trading days ended December 21, 2004, this would have resulted in us issuing 612,989 shares of common stock to Citizens Community MHC. Issuing 612,989 shares would cause you to experience a dilution in ownership interest of approximately 17.1%. The number of shares actually issued to Citizens Community MHC at the time of merger will be adjusted to reflect any changes in the independent appraisal of Community Plus Savings Bank and the average closing price of our common stock at the time the merger is consummated, which could result in an increase or decrease in the dilution.

**Our Stock Price** 

Our common stock is quoted on the Over-the-Counter Electronic Bulletin Board under the symbol "CZWI." On January 5, 2005, which was the last trading day before the merger was announced, our common stock closed at \$14.90 per share. On May 6, 2005, which is the last practicable trading day before the printing of this document, our common stock closed at \$13.00 per share.

Tax Consequences of the Merger (page 17)

We have received an opinion of counsel to the effect that, based on certain facts, representations and assumptions, the merger will be a "reorganization" for federal income tax purposes and, as your shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock will remain unchanged, you will not recognize any gain or loss for federal income tax purposes upon completion of the merger or the issuance of additional shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC.

Our Board of Directors Recommends that You Vote to Approve the Issuance of Additional Shares (page 18)

Community Plus Savings Bank's Independent Appraiser Has Determined the Value of Community Plus Savings Bank to Establish the Number of Shares of Our Common Stock That We Must Issue to Citizens Community MHC (page 19) Our board of directors believes that the issuance of additional shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC in connection with the merger is fair to and in the best interests of our shareholders, and unanimously recommends that you vote "FOR" the proposal to approve the issuance of additional shares of our common stock in connection with the merger.

For a discussion of the factors considered by our board of directors in approving the merger agreement, see page 18.

RP Financial has delivered to the Community Plus Savings Bank board of directors its written appraisal of the value of Community Plus Savings Bank, as of January 21, 2005 for filing with the Office of Thrift Supervision. A summary of the appraisal is contained on pages 19 through 21. You should read the summary to understand the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations on the review made by RP Financial in providing this appraisal. This appraisal, as updated, will be used to establish the number of shares of our common stock that we will be required to issue to Citizens Community MHC in connection with the merger. Community Plus Savings Bank agreed to pay RP Financial approximately \$27,500 for preparation of the appraisal and the appraisal update, plus expenses, all of which has been paid.

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Our Financial Advisor Has Reviewed the Appraised Value of Community Plus Savings Bank and Determined That the Merger and the Number of Shares to be Issued Are Fair to Our Shareholders (page 21)

Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., our financial advisor, has reviewed RP Financial's appraisal of Community Plus Savings Bank's value. Additionally, our board of directors received an opinion from Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., that the merger and the issuance of shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC are fair, from a financial point of view, to our shareholders. Our board considered this opinion in determining to approve the merger and the share issuance. You should read this opinion completely to understand the assumptions made, matters considered and limitations of the review undertaken by Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., in providing its opinion. Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc.'s opinion is directed to our board of directors and does not constitute a recommendation to any shareholder as to any matters relating to the merger or the share issuance. We have agreed to pay Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., approximately \$35,000, plus expenses, for its services in connection with the merger, all of which has been paid. Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., has previously provided us with services in connection with our reorganization to the mutual holding company form of organization for which Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., was paid \$110,254.

Certain of Our Obligations in Connection with the Merger (page 26) In the merger agreement, we agreed to take certain actions with regard to Community Plus Savings Bank's directors and officers. These include:

- offering employment as Senior Vice President of the Community Plus Division of Citizens Community Federal to Brian P. Ashley, President and Chief Executive Officer of Community Plus Savings Bank;
- providing Mr. Ashley with a three-year employment agreement and participation in Citizens Community Federal's executive supplemental retirement income plan in substitution and replacement for all existing benefits, including the employment agreements that Community Plus Savings Bank previously entered into with Mr. Ashley;
- indemnifying Community Plus Savings Bank's directors and officers and insurance for such directors and officers for events occurring before the merger;
- appointing Mr. Ashley to the board of directors of Citizens Community Federal; and
- appointing the current members of Community Plus Savings Bank's board of directors, other than Mr. Ashley, to a newly formed advisory board of Citizens Community Federal and providing these advisory directors participation in the Citizens Community Federal Directors' Retirement Plan.

The merger cannot be completed unless it is first approved by the Office of Thrift Supervision. The application for approval is under consideration by the Office of Thrift Supervision.

The completion of the merger depends on a number of conditions being met. These conditions include:

- approval of the stock issuance by our shareholders;
- approval of the merger agreement by Community Plus Savings Bank's members:

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Regulatory Approval Needed to Complete the Merger (page 27)

Conditions to Completing the Merger (page 28)

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 approval of the merger by the Office of Thrift Supervision without any condition or requirement that would so materially affect the economic benefits of the merger that, had the condition or requirement been known, we would not have entered into the merger agreement;

- the continued accuracy of certain representations and warranties made on the date of the merger agreement; and
- the absence of material adverse changes in certain aspects of Community Plus Savings Bank's operations and financial position.

We cannot be certain when or if the conditions to the merger will be satisfied or waived, or that the merger will be completed.

Community Plus Savings Bank has agreed not to initiate, solicit, encourage or facilitate any acquisition proposal with a third party. Despite its agreement not to solicit other acquisition proposals, the Community Plus Savings Bank board of directors may generally negotiate or have discussions with, or provide information to, a third party who makes an unsolicited, written, bona fide acquisition proposal, provided that its board of directors determines in good faith:

- after consultation with and based upon the written advice of its legal counsel, that failing to take such actions would cause the board to breach its fiduciary duties under applicable law; and
- after consultation with its financial advisor, that such proposal would be more favorable to the Community Plus Savings Bank members than the merger with Citizens Community Federal.

Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank can agree at any time not to complete the merger, even if our shareholders and Community Plus Savings Bank's members have approved it. Also, either of us can decide to terminate the merger agreement:

- in response to a material breach by the other party, which is not or cannot be cured within 30 days;
- if the merger is not completed by December 31, 2005;
- if any required regulatory, shareholder or member approval is not obtained; or
- in response to a withdrawal of the board of directors of its recommendation to approve the merger agreement or a modification or qualification of its recommendation in a manner adverse to the other party.

Community Plus Savings Bank also may terminate the merger agreement if its board of directors authorizes Community Plus Savings Bank to enter into an agreement with a third party that the Community Plus Savings Bank board determines in good faith, after consulting with its financial advisor, is a superior proposal to the Citizens Community Federal merger. In this case, Community Plus Savings Bank must give us three days in which to match or exceed the superior proposal.

Proposals (page 28)

**Agreement Not to Solicit Other** 

Terminating the Merger Agreement (page 29)

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#### **Termination Fee (page 29)**

If the merger agreement is validly terminated by Community Plus Savings Bank due to a material breach of the merger agreement by us (that cannot be cured within 30 days), or if our board withdraws, modifies or qualifies its recommendation to approve the stock issuance by Citizens Community Bancorp to Citizens Community MHC, we must pay Community Plus Savings Bank a termination fee of \$175,000. If the agreement is terminated because Community Plus Savings Bank enters into another merger agreement with a third party, Community Plus Savings Bank must pay us a termination fee of \$175,000. We are also entitled to the termination fee if the agreement is terminated because of a willful or intentional material breach of the merger agreement by Community Plus Savings Bank or if the board of Community Plus Savings Bank withdraws, modifies or qualifies its recommendation to approve the merger agreement.

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### Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Information for Citizens Community Bancorp

The data presented at December 31, 2004 and for the three months then ended is derived from the unaudited financial statements of Citizens Community Bancorp but, in the opinion of management, reflects all adjustments necessary to present fairly the results for that interim period. These adjustments consist only of normal recurring adjustments. The results of operations for the three months ended December 31, 2004, are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations that may be expected for the year ended September 30, 2005. The selected consolidated financial information of Citizens Community Bancorp at and for the years ended September 30, 2004, 2003 and 2002 is derived from the audited financial statements of Citizens Community Bancorp and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and accompanying notes of Citizens Community Bancorp. A copy of Citizens Community Bancorp's 2004 Annual Report and Form 10-QSB for the quarter ended December 31, 2004 is being provided to our shareholders with a copy of this proxy statement. For periods before March 29, 2004, the table reflects data for Citizens Community Federal.

### At September 30,

	At December 31,		<del>-</del>		
	2004	2004	2003	2002	
		(In Thous	ands)		
Selected Financial Condition Data:					
Total assets	\$168,546	\$161,980	\$130,400	\$115,257	
Loans receivable, net	158,949	152,376	123,107	104,091	
Interest-bearing certificates of deposit				1,485	
Deposits	129,073	127,976	114,963	104,429	
Total borrowings	18,500	13,500	3,700		
Total equity	19,799	19,606	10,991	10,393	
	For the Three Months Ended	<u> </u>	the Year Ended Septem	ber 30,	
	December 31, 2004	2004	2003	2002	
		(In t	chousands)		
<b>Selected Operations Data:</b>					
Total interest income	\$2,6	\$9,6	19 \$8,880	\$8,493	
Total interest expense	7	787 2,8	89 3,178	3,859	
Net interest income	1,8	6,7	5,702	4,634	
Provision for loan losses	1	30	96 406	375	
Net interest income after provision for loan los	ses 1,7	6,3	5,296	4,259	
Fees and service charges	2	262 1,0	38 1,009	821	
Gain (loss) on sales of loans, mortgage-backed securities and investment securities					
Other non-interest income	1	103	31 323	286	
Total non-interest income		365 1,3		1,107	
Total non-interest expense	1,7	796 6,3	23 5,641	4,675	
Income before taxes		340 1,3		691	
Income tax provision <sup>(1)</sup>	1	5	43 390	27	
Net income	\$ 2	200 \$ 8	37 \$ 597	\$ 664	

At or For the At or For the Year Ended **Three Months** September 30, Ended December 31, 2004 2004 2003 2002 (In thousands) **Selected Financial Ratios and Other Data Performance Ratios**<sup>(2)</sup>: Return on assets (ratio of net income to 0.48% 0.49% 0.60% 0.57% average total assets) Return on equity (ratio of net income to average equity) 4.02% 5.47% 5.59% 6.61% Interest rate spread information 4.61% 4.50% 4.82% 4.30% Average during period 4.57% End of period 4.59% 4.80% 4.74% Net interest margin 4.73% 4.70% 4.90% 4.39% 4.19% Ratio of operating expense to average total assets 4.31% 4.33% 4.59% Ratio of average interest-bearing assets to average interest bearing liabilities 1.08% 1.10% 1.05% 1.03% **Quality Ratios** Non-performing assets to total assets at end of period 0.45% 0.43% 0.43% 0.53% Allowance for loan losses to non-79.51% 82.92% 65.36%78.59% performing loans Allowance for loan losses to net loans 0.38% 0.36% 0.38% 0.34%**Capital Ratios** Equity to total assets at end of period 11.75% 12.10% 8.43% 9.02% Average equity to average assets 11.92% 10.46% 8.70% 9.01% Other Data

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 $10^{(3)}$ 

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Number of full-service offices

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<sup>(1)</sup> Until its conversion to a federally chartered mutual savings bank on December 10, 2001, Citizens Community Federal was a credit union, exempt from federal and state income taxes. Had Citizens Community Federal been subject to federal and state income taxes for the entire fiscal year ended September 30, 2002, income tax expense would have been approximately \$273,000, net income would have been approximately \$418,000, return on assets would have been approximately 0.37% and return on equity would have been approximately 4.15%.

<sup>(2)</sup> Ratios for three months have been annualized.

<sup>(3)</sup> Includes Oakdale, Minnesota Branch, which opened on October 1, 2004.

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#### Selected Historical Financial Information for Community Plus Savings Bank

The selected financial information of Community Plus Savings Bank presented below is derived in part from the audited financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and accompanying notes of Community Plus Savings Bank presented on Pages F-1 through F-16 in this proxy statement.

Decen		

	2004	2003	2002
	(	In Thousands)	
Selected Financial Condition Data:			
Total assets	\$46,430	\$45,592	\$43,978
Loans, receivable, net	28,073	33,004	29,670
Mortgage-backed and investment securities	4,073	2,359	1,045
Deposits	41,966	41,335	39,898
Total borrowings			
Total equity	4,131	4,043	3,793
	For the Yo	ear Ended December 31,	,
	2004	2003	2002
		2003 In Thousands)	2002
Selected Operations Data:			2002
Selected Operations Data: Total interest income			\$2,318
		In Thousands)	
Total interest income	\$1,728	In Thousands) \$2,041	\$2,318

Net interest income after provision for loan losses	1,299	1,511	1,646
	,	,	· ·
Fees and service charges	311	331	340
Gain (loss) on sales of loans, mortgage-backed securities and investment securities			
Other non-interest income			
Total non-interest income	311	331	340
Total non-interest expense	1,496	1,490	1,546
		1	
Income before taxes	114	352	440
Income tax provision	28	107	136
Net income	\$ 86	\$ 245	\$ 304

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### At or For the Year Ended December 31,

	2004	2003	2002
Selected Financial Ratios and Other Data			
Performance Ratios:			
Return on assets (ratio of net income to average total assets)	.19%	.53%	.71%
Return on equity (ratio of net income to average equity)	2.21%	6.23%	8.35%
Net interest margin	3.02%	3.54%	4.06%
Ratio of operating expense to average total assets	3.20%	3.31%	3.58%
Ratio of average interest-bearing assets to average interest bearing liabilities	1.29%	1.31%	1.30%
Quality Ratios			
Non-performing assets to total assets at end of period			
Allowance for loan losses to non-performing loans			
Allowance for loan losses to net loans	.16%	.16%	.21%

### **Capital Ratios**

Equity to total assets at end of period	8.90%	8.87%	8.62%
Average equity to average assets	8.81%	8.55%	8.50%
Other Data			
Number of full-service offices	2	2	2

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#### **Summary Selected Pro Forma Combined Data**

The following table shows selected financial information on a pro forma combined basis giving effect to the merger as if the merger had become effective at the end of the period presented, in the case of balance sheet information, and at the beginning of each period presented, in the case of income statement information. The pro forma information reflects the purchase method of accounting.

We anticipate that the merger will provide the combined company with financial benefits that include reduced operating expenses and the opportunity to earn more revenue. The pro forma information, while helpful in illustrating the financial characteristics of the new company under one set of assumptions, does not reflect these benefits and, accordingly, does not attempt to predict or suggest future results. It also does not necessarily reflect what the historical results of the new company would have been had our companies been combined during this period.

Because we have a September 30 fiscal year end and Community Plus Savings Bank has a December 31 fiscal year end, Community Plus Savings Bank's historical information has been adjusted to correspond to our fiscal year end. For the year ended September 30, 2004, Community Plus Savings Bank's historical information was calculated by adding the results for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and the results for the three months ended December 31, 2003.

You should read this summary pro forma information in conjunction with the information under "Pro Forma Financial Information" beginning on page 30.

Three Months Ended December 31, 2004 Year Ended September 30, 2004

(In thousands	s)
\$3,062	\$11,869
888	3,299
2,174	8,570
106	409
2,068	8,161
378	1,406
2,244	8,095
202	1,472
80	566
\$ 122	\$ 906
	\$3,062 888 2,174 106 2,068 378 2,244 202 80

**December 31, 2004** 

(In	thousand	ls)
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Pro forma combined balance sheet data:				
Total assets	\$220,923			
Securities	4,073			
Loans receivable, net	186,424			
Deposits	171,057			
FHLB advances	18,500			
Total shareholders' equity	29,326			

Following the merger, the declaration of dividends will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will be determined after consideration of various factors, including earnings, cash requirements, our financial condition, applicable federal law and regulations and other factors deemed relevant by our board of directors. The merger agreement prohibits the payment of and distribution by Community Plus Savings Bank of any dividend to its members pending consummation of the merger.

#### The Special Meeting of Shareholders

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by our board of directors to be used at the special meeting of shareholders of Citizens Community Bancorp.

#### Place, Date and Time

The annual meeting will be held at the Citizens Community Federal offices located at Banking Place, Building D-02, Suite 319, 800 Wisconsin Street, Eau Claire, Wisconsin on Thursday, June 16, 2005 at 10:00 a.m., local time.

#### **Purpose of the Meeting**

The purpose of the meeting is to consider and vote on a proposal to approve the issuance of 715,391 shares of our common stock, subject to adjustment, to Citizens Community MHC and to act on any other matters brought before the meeting.

#### Who Can Vote at the Meeting; Record Date

You are entitled to vote your Citizens Community Bancorp common stock only if the records of Citizens Community Bancorp show that you held your shares as of the close of business on May 6, 2005. If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in "street name" and these proxy materials are being forwarded to you by your broker or nominee. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker on how to vote. Your broker or nominee has enclosed a voting instruction card for you to use in directing it on how to vote your shares.

As of the close of business on May 6, 2005, a total of 3,015,518 shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock were outstanding, including 2,063,100 shares of common stock held by Citizens Community MHC. Each share of common stock has one vote. As provided in our charter, record holders of our common stock (other than Citizens Community MHC) who beneficially own, either directly or indirectly, in excess of 10% of our outstanding shares are not entitled to any vote in respect of the shares held in excess of the 10% limit.

#### Attending the Meeting

If you are a shareholder of record as of the close of business on May 6, 2005, you may attend the meeting. However, if you hold your shares in street name, you will need proof of ownership to be admitted to the meeting. A recent brokerage statement or letter from a bank or broker are examples of proof of ownership. If you want to vote your shares of our common stock held in street name in person at the meeting, you will have to get a written proxy in your name from the broker, bank or other nominee who holds your shares.

#### **Quorum and Vote Required**

Quorum. The special meeting will be held only if a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote (excluding any shares held in excess of the 10% limit by persons other than Citizens Community MHC) are represented at the meeting. If you return valid proxy instructions or attend the meeting in person, your shares will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum present, even if you abstain from voting. Broker non-votes also will be counted for purposes of determining the existence of a quorum. A broker non-vote occurs when a broker, bank or other nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power with respect to that item and has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner. Under applicable rules, brokers, banks and other nominees may not exercise their voting discretion on the proposal to approve the issuance of additional shares of our common stock and, for this reason, may not vote shares held for beneficial owners for that proposal without specific instructions from the beneficial owners.

**Vote Required.** Approval of the issuance of additional shares of our common stock requires the affirmative vote of a majority of our shares of common stock and a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock excluding shares owned by Citizens Community MHC. Failure to return a properly executed proxy card or to vote in person and abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote "AGAINST" the proposal to approve the issuance of additional shares of our common stock.

Citizens Community MHC owns 68.4% of the shares of common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting. Citizens Community MHC has indicated to us that it intends to vote such shares of common stock "FOR" the proposal, thereby ensuring a quorum at the special meeting.

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#### Shares Held by Officers and Directors; Voting Agreements

As of May 6, 2005, our directors and executive officers owned approximately 8.1% of the outstanding shares of our common stock, or 25.5% of the shares held by persons other than Citizens Community MHC. All of our directors and executive officers have entered into voting agreements with Community Plus Savings Bank to vote all of the shares of our common stock owned by them in favor of the proposal to approve the issuance of additional shares of our common stock.

#### **Voting by Proxy**

Our board of directors is sending you this proxy statement for the purpose of requesting that you allow your shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock to be represented at the special meeting by the persons named in the enclosed proxy card. All shares of our common stock represented at the special meeting by properly executed proxies will be voted according to the instructions indicated on the proxy card. If you sign, date and return a proxy card without giving voting instructions, your shares will be voted as recommended by our board of directors. Our board of directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" approval of the proposal to issue additional shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock to Citizens Community MHC.

If any matters not described in this proxy statement are properly presented at the special meeting, the persons named in the proxy card will use their best judgement to determine how to vote your shares. This includes a motion to adjourn or postpone the special meeting to solicit additional proxies. However, no proxy voted against the proposal will be voted in favor of an adjournment or postponement to solicit additional votes in favor of the proposal. If the special meeting is postponed or adjourned, Citizens Community Bancorp common stock may be voted by the persons named in the proxy card on the new special meeting date as well, unless you have revoked your proxy. We do not know of any other matters to be presented at the special meeting.

If your common stock is held in street name, you will receive instructions from your broker, bank or other nominee that you must follow to have your shares voted. Your broker or bank may allow you to deliver your voting instructions via the telephone or the Internet. Please see the instruction form that accompanies this proxy statement.

### **Revocability of Proxies**

You may revoke your proxy at any time before the vote is taken at the meeting. To revoke your proxy you must either advise our Secretary in writing before your common stock has been voted at the special meeting, deliver a later dated proxy card, or attend the meeting and vote your shares in person. Attendance at the special meeting will not, by itself, constitute revocation of your proxy.

#### **Solicitation of Proxies**

We will pay the cost of this proxy solicitation. In addition to solicitation of proxies by mail, we have retained Regan and Associates to assist in the solicitation of proxies. We will pay Regan and Associates \$5,000, plus expenses. We have also agreed to indemnify Regan and Associates against certain liabilities and expenses, including liabilities under the federal securities laws. Proxies may also be solicited, in person or by telephone, by our directors, officers and other employees, who will receive no compensation for their services other than their normal salaries. Brokerage houses, nominees, fiduciaries, and other custodians are requested to forward soliciting material to the beneficial owners of shares held of record by them and will be reimbursed for their expenses in doing so.

#### Participants in Citizens Community Bank's ESOP and 401(k) Plan

If you participate in the Citizens Community Bancorp Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the "ESOP") or if you hold shares through the Citizens Community Federal Employees' Savings &#38 Profit Sharing Plan and Trust (the "401(k) Plan"), you will receive a vote authorization form from each plan that reflects all shares that you may direct the trustees to vote on your behalf under the plans. Under the terms of the ESOP, the ESOP trustee votes all shares held by the ESOP, but each participant in the ESOP may direct the trustee how to vote the shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock allocated to his or her account. The ESOP trustee, subject to the exercise of its fiduciary duties, will vote all

unallocated shares of common stock held by the ESOP and allocated shares for which no timely voting instructions are received in the same proportion as shares for which the trustee has received voting instructions. Under the terms of the 401(k) Plan, you are entitled to direct the trustee how to vote the shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock held in the Employer Stock Fund credited to your account. The trustee will vote all shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock for which no directions are given or for which timely instructions were not received in the same proportion as shares for which the trustee received voting instructions. The deadline for returning your voting instructions to each plan's trustee is June 9, 2005.

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# The Issuance of Additional Shares of Our Common Stock Pursuant to the Merger

The following discussion of the merger is qualified by reference to the merger agreement, which is attached to this proxy statement as Appendix A. You should read the entire merger agreement carefully. It is the legal document that governs the merger. All information contained in this proxy statement with respect to Community Plus Savings Bank has been supplied by Community Plus Savings Bank for inclusion herein and has not been independently verified by us.

#### The Parties to the Merger

Citizens Community Bancorp Citizens Community Federal Citizens Community MHC

Citizens Community Bancorp became the federally chartered stock holding company for Citizens Community Federal in connection with the conversion of Citizens Community Federal from the mutual to stock form and the reorganization of Citizens Community Federal into a mutual holding company structure on March 29, 2004. In connection with the reorganization, Citizens Community MHC was organized and became the majority holder of Citizens Community Bancorp's outstanding common stock. As federally chartered savings and loan holding companies, Citizens Community Bancorp and Citizens Community MHC are regulated by the Office of Thrift Supervision. Since their formation, Citizens Community Bancorp's and Citizens Community MHC's principal activities have been to direct and coordinate the business of Citizens Community Federal. At December 31, 2004, we had total assets of \$168.5 million, total deposits of \$129.1 million and total shareholders' equity of \$19.8 million.

Citizens Community Federal, a federally chartered stock savings bank located in Eau Claire, Wisconsin was originally chartered as a credit union in 1938, and converted to a federal savings bank in 2001. Citizens Community Federal is regulated by the Office of Thrift Supervision and its deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to applicable limits. Citizens Community Federal operates through ten banking centers in Eau Claire, Buffalo, Jackson, Sauk, Barron and Chippewa Counties in Wisconsin and Blue Earth and Washington Counties in Minnesota.

#### Community Plus Savings Bank

Community Plus Savings Bank, a federally chartered mutual savings bank headquartered in Rochester Hills, Michigan, was chartered as a credit union in 1954. Community Plus Savings Bank converted to a state savings association charter in 2002, and to a federal savings bank charter in April 2004. Community Plus Savings Bank is regulated by the Office of Thrift Supervision and its deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to applicable limits. At December 31, 2004, Community Plus Savings Bank had total assets of \$46.4 million, total deposits of \$42.0 million and capital of \$4.1 million. Community Plus Savings Bank operates through two full-service banking offices located in Rochester Hills and Lake Orion, Michigan.

#### Form of the Merger

The merger agreement provides for the merger of Community Plus Savings Bank with and into Citizens Community Federal. Citizens Community Federal will be the surviving institution of the merger. The merger agreement provides that we may change the structure utilized to combine with Community Plus Savings Bank, provided that any change cannot jeopardize receipt of any required regulatory approval in such a manner as to delay the consummation of the merger beyond December 31, 2005, adversely affect the rights of the depositors or members of Community Plus Savings Bank or change the benefits or other arrangements that the merger agreement provides will be made to or on behalf of Community Plus Savings Bank's directors, officers and employees.

#### We Will Issue Additional Shares to Citizens Community MHC

Citizens Community MHC currently owns 68.4% of our outstanding common stock. As part of the merger, we will issue additional shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC in an amount equal to the value of Community Plus Savings Bank as determined by an independent appraisal. Community Plus Savings Bank's independent appraiser, RP Financial, has determined that the value of Community Plus Savings Bank was \$9.25 million as of January 21, 2005. Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., our financial advisor, reviewed RP Financial's appraisal and determined that the appraised value in RP Financial's appraisal is fair to our shareholders and members.

At the effective time of the merger, we will issue these shares to Citizens Community MHC to preserve the interests of the Community Plus Savings Bank members that are being transferred to Citizens Community MHC in the merger. The issuance of these shares to Citizens Community MHC will increase its ownership interest in Citizens Community Bancorp relative to that of other shareholders. Community Plus Savings Bank's members will become members of Citizens Community MHC after the merger and will have a pro rata interest in Citizens Community

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MHC's larger interest in Citizens Community Bancorp. After the merger, each member of Community Plus Savings Bank who continues to be a depositor of Citizens Community Federal, will have a membership interest in Citizens Community MHC, including liquidation rights based on the relative size of the members' deposit accounts to the deposit accounts of other members of Citizens Community MHC.

To determine the amount of shares to be issued to Citizens Community MHC, RP Financial will divide the amount of its updated appraisal by the average of the closing bid price of our common stock over the 15 trading days that end on the fifth day before the effective date of the merger.

#### Community Plus Savings Bank's Deposit Accounts and Loans After the Merger

All deposit accounts in Community Plus Savings Bank will continue to be insured up to applicable limits by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in the same manner as these deposit accounts were insured immediately before the merger. In addition to a deposit account in Citizens Community Federal, each depositor of Community Plus Savings Bank who continues to be a depositor of Citizens Community Federal after the merger, will be a member of and have a pro rata ownership interest in the equity of Citizens Community MHC. This ownership interest only may be realized if Citizens Community MHC is liquidated. The ownership interest is based on the amount of a depositor's account relative to the deposit accounts of other members and has no tangible market value separate from the deposit account. Accordingly, if a depositor reduces or closes an account, the depositor's ownership interest in the equity of Citizens Community MHC will be reduced or eliminated.

All loans of Community Plus Savings Bank will retain the same status that they had prior to the merger. The amount, interest rate, maturity and security for each loan will remain as they were contractually fixed prior to the merger.

#### Community Plus Savings Bank's Members Will Become Members of Citizens Community MHC

As a federally chartered mutual holding company, Citizens Community MHC does not have authorized capital stock and, thus, has no shareholders. The merger will result in the depositors of Community Plus Savings Bank becoming depositors of Citizens Community Federal

and, therefore, members of Citizens Community MHC as long as they continue to maintain a deposit account with Citizens Community Federal. These members will be entitled to vote on all questions requiring action by the members of Citizens Community MHC including, without limitation, the election of directors of Citizens Community MHC.

### Community Plus Savings Bank's Members Will Have Subscription Rights if a Second-Step Conversion Occurs

In the future, Citizens Community MHC may convert from the mutual to capital stock form, in a transaction commonly known as a "second-step" conversion. Under current Office of Thrift Supervision regulations, a second-step conversion requires the approval of a majority of the shares of our common stock, other than shares owned by Citizens Community MHC and a majority of the total votes eligible to be cast by Citizens Community MHC. In a second-step conversion, members of Citizens Community MHC at such time would have subscription rights to purchase shares of the converted Citizens Community MHC on a priority basis. Our shareholders would be entitled to exchange their shares of common stock for shares of the converted Citizens Community MHC. It is expected that our public shareholders would own the same percentage of the resulting entity as they owned immediately prior to the second-step conversion. Our board of directors has no current plan to undertake a second-step conversion transaction.

#### Material Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger

This discussion is based on the Internal Revenue Code, Treasury regulations, administrative rulings and judicial decisions, all as in effect as of the date of this proxy statement and all of which are subject to change (possibly with retroactive effect) and to differing interpretations. Tax considerations under state, local and foreign laws are not addressed in this document.

Based upon facts and representations and assumptions regarding factual matters that were provided by Citizens Community Bancorp and by Community Plus Savings Bank, Silver, Freedman &#38 Taff, L.L.P. has opined with respect to the material federal income tax consequences of the merger that: (1) the merger will be treated for federal income tax purposes as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code; (2) Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank will each be a party to that reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(b) of the Internal Revenue Code; and (3) as your shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock will remain unchanged, you should not recognize any gain or loss for federal income tax purposes upon the completion of the merger or the issuance of additional shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC. Neither Citizens Community Bancorp nor Community Plus Savings Bank has requested or will request a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service as to any of the tax effects to Citizens Community Bancorp's shareholders or Community Plus Savings Bank's members of the transactions discussed in this proxy statement.

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#### Recommendation of Our Board; Our Reasons for the Merger and Issuance of the Shares

Our board of directors has unanimously approved the merger agreement and recommends that you vote "FOR" the approval of the issuance of additional shares of our common stock in connection with the merger.

Our board of directors has determined that the issuance of additional shares in connection with the merger is fair to, and in the best interests of, Citizens Community Bancorp and Citizens Community Bancorp's shareholders. In approving the merger agreement and the share issuance, the board of directors consulted with legal counsel regarding its legal duties and the terms of the merger agreement. In arriving at its determination, the board of directors also considered a number of factors, including the following:

• No Consideration Being Paid to Community Plus Savings Bank's Members. Pursuant to the merger agreement, we are required to issue to Citizens Community MHC a number of shares equal to the appraised value of Community Plus Savings Bank; however, we will not be required to pay any consideration directly to any affiliated party, including Community Plus Savings Bank's members, in the

merger.

- Due Diligence Review. Information concerning the businesses, earnings, operations, financial condition and prospects of Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank, both individually and as combined. Our board took into account the results of our due diligence review of Community Plus Savings Bank.
- Market and Product Expansion. The merger will give us an operations base in the northern suburbs of Detroit, with offices in Rochester Hills and Lake Orion, Michigan, which will allow us to expand our operations by attracting new customers and offering new loan products to existing customers of Community Plus Savings Bank.
- Greater Resources. The size of the combined company, which would permit us to pursue other acquisitions.
- Continuity of Management. That our management team immediately before the merger will remain intact following the merger.
- Fairness Opinion. The opinion rendered by Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., as our financial advisor, that the merger and the issuance of shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC are fair, from a financial point of view, to our shareholders.
- Cost Savings. The opportunities for decreasing operating expenses for the combined company.
- Current Environment. The current and prospective economic, competitive and regulatory environment facing Citizens Community Bancorp, Citizens Community Federal, Community Plus Savings Bank and the financial services industry.
- Termination Fee. The \$175,000 termination fee to which we would be entitled under certain circumstances, or required to pay under certain circumstances.
- More Competitive. The board of directors' assessment that we would be better able to serve the convenience and needs of our
  customers and communities by becoming a larger institution better suited for competing against regional financial institutions in our
  market areas.
- Accretive to Cash Earnings. That, based on historical earnings for the year ended September 30, 2004, the merger is expected to be accretive to earnings by \$.02 per share in the first year after the merger and the belief that the business and financial advantages contemplated in connection with the merger will likely be achieved within a reasonable time frame.
- Likelihood of Consummation. That Community Plus Savings Bank had thoroughly reviewed its strategic planning options and the likelihood that the proposed merger would receive the required approvals, and the anticipated impact of the foregoing on the successful consummation of the transaction.
- Intended to Receive Tax-Free Treatment. That the merger is intended to be tax-free for U.S. federal income tax purposes for our shareholders and Community Plus Savings Bank members.
- Community Plus Savings Bank's CRA Rating. The "satisfactory" Community Reinvestment Act rating at the most recent examination of Community Plus Savings Bank.

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The discussion of the information and factors considered by our board of directors is not intended to be exhaustive, but includes all material factors considered by our board of directors. In reaching its determination to approve and recommend the issuance of additional shares to Citizens Community MHC, our board of directors did not assign any specific or relative weights to any of the foregoing factors, and individual directors may have weighed factors differently.

#### The Independent Appraisal

We are issuing additional shares to Citizens Community MHC to ensure that the value of Community Plus Savings Bank is transferred to the mutual interest in Citizens Community Bancorp. The number of shares to be issued is based on the pro forma market value of Community Plus Savings Bank, as determined by RP Financial, and the market price per share of our common stock. RP Financial utilized the market value approach to valuation, prepared in accordance with the written valuation guidelines of the Office of Thrift Supervision, applicable regulatory interpretations thereof and verbal guidance provided by the Office of Thrift Supervision staff regarding appropriate valuation methodologies for this type of transaction. Community Plus Savings Bank retained RP Financial to prepare the independent valuation. RP Financial received a fee of \$25,000 for the initial valuation and was reimbursed for expenses incurred in preparing the independent appraisal. RP Financial will receive a \$2,500 fee for each required updated valuation. Community Plus Savings Bank has agreed to indemnify RP Financial and its employees and affiliates against certain losses (including any losses in connection with claims under the federal securities laws) arising out of its services as appraiser, except where RP Financial's liability results from its negligence or bad faith.

The independent valuation was prepared by RP Financial in reliance upon audited financial information of Community Plus Savings Bank, unaudited internal financial statements, and the information contained in the proxy materials. RP Financial also considered the following factors, among others:

- the present and projected operating results and financial condition of Community Plus Savings Bank and the economic and demographic conditions in Community Plus Savings Bank's existing market area;
- Community Plus Savings Bank's historical financial and related operating information;
- a comparative evaluation of the operating and financial statistics of Community Plus Savings Bank with those of other publicly traded subsidiaries of mutual holding companies;
- the aggregate amount of the pro forma market valuation;
- the impact of the merger transaction on Community Plus Savings Bank's equity and earnings potential;
- the trading market for securities of other publicly traded subsidiaries of mutual holding companies;
- the pro forma effect of the merger on both Community Plus Savings Bank and Citizens Community Bancorp, including the issuance of new shares of Citizens Community Bancorp to Citizens Community MHC, the treatment of the merger using the purchase method of accounting and the resulting balance of intangible assets that will be created; and
- the pro forma effect of the valuation on our public shareholders, including the potential dilution in ownership interests and the impact on earnings per share and tangible book value per share of the merger.

In applying the accepted valuation methodology set forth under the Office of Thrift Supervision valuation guidelines, RP Financial considered (1) the pro forma price-to earnings ratio, (2) the pro forma price-to-book value ratio and (3) the pro forma price-to-assets ratio. In determining the pro forma fair market value of Community Plus Savings Bank, it was assumed that:

- proceeds of \$9.25 million were raised from the sale of common stock in a public offering;
- offering expenses were 8% of the proceeds;
- net proceeds had been invested at 2.75%; and
- a tax rate of 34% was applied to earnings on the net proceeds.

RP Financial also assumed that stock benefit plans, in the form typically implemented in a mutual-to-stock conversion, had been implemented, including the purchase of 8% of the common stock by the employee stock

ownership plan, which was amortized on a straight-line basis over ten years, and the purchase of 4% of the common stock by a recognition and retention plan, which was amortized on a straight-line basis over five years.

The following table presents a summary of selected pricing ratios for the peer group companies used in RP Financial's valuation analysis, each of whom is in the mutual holding company form of organization and either listed on a national exchange or the Nasdaq Stock Market. In determining the following pricing ratios for the peer group companies, it was assumed that each entity was "fully-converted," meaning that each entity had sold all of the shares currently held by its mutual holding company in a second-step transaction.

Additionally, the following table provides Community Plus Savings Bank's pro forma pricing ratios for earnings, book value and assets based on its fully-converted value of \$9.25 million. The Community Plus Savings Bank pro forma pricing ratios were calculated based on the assumption that Community Plus Savings Bank sold \$9.25 million of stock in a public offering. The net proceeds were assumed to be reinvested in interest-earning assets and added to Community Plus Savings Bank's capital and assets. Accordingly, the pricing ratios show the value of Community Plus Savings Bank assuming that it was to continue its operations as a fully-converted company rather than be acquired by us.

Compared to the average fully-converted pricing ratios of the peer group, Community Plus Savings Bank's pro forma fully-converted pricing ratios indicated a 141.65% premium on a price-to-earnings basis, a 25.29% premium on a price-to-core-earnings basis, a discount of 18.66% on a price-to-book value basis, a 22.82% discount on a price-to-tangible-book-value basis and a discount of 24.15% percent on a price-to-assets basis.

_	Fully Converted Equivalent Pro Forma Price- To-Earnings Multiple	Fully Converted Equivalent Pro Forma Price-To- Core Earnings Multiple	Fully Converted Equivalent Pro Forma Price-To- Book Value Ratio	Fully Converted Equivalent Pro Forma Price-To- Tangible Book Multiple	Fully Converted Equivalent Pro Forma Price-To- Assets Ratio
Community Plus Savings Bank	75.66x	43.65x	80.81%	80.81%	17.21%
Average of valuations of peer group companies as of January 21, 2005	31.31x	34.84x	99.35%	104.70%	22.69%

<sup>(1)</sup> The per share price of Community Plus Savings Bank used in these calculations was \$14.41, which was the average closing price of the shares of our common stock on the fifteen trading days ending on January 21, 2005. This method of valuing the shares was dictated by the merger agreement between the parties.

On the basis of the foregoing, RP Financial gave Community Plus Savings Bank a \$9.25 million preliminary estimate of its appraised valuation as of December 21, 2004 for purposes of considering the merger agreement. Based on the average closing price of our common stock of \$15.09 per share for the fifteen trading days ended December 21, 2004, this preliminary valuation equates to the issuance of 612,989 shares of our common stock to Citizens Community MHC.

The board of Community Plus Savings Bank reviewed the independent valuation and, in particular, considered: (1) Community Plus Savings Bank's anticipated financial condition and results of operations for the twelve months ended December 31, 2004; (2) financial comparisons in relation to other financial institutions, including other publicly traded subsidiaries of mutual holding companies; and (3) stock market conditions generally and in particular for financial institutions, all of which are set forth in the independent valuation. The board also

reviewed the methodology and the assumptions used by RP Financial in preparing the independent valuation. The estimated pro forma market value may be amended with the approval of the Office of Thrift Supervision, if necessitated by subsequent developments in Community Plus Savings Bank's financial condition or market conditions generally.

Subsequent to the execution of the merger agreement and for purposes of inclusion in the regulatory applications seeking the approval of the merger by the Office of Thrift Supervision, RP Financial reaffirmed the pro forma valuation of Community Plus Savings Bank as of January 21, 2005, at \$9.25 million. The independent appraisal of Community Plus Savings Bank will be updated at the time of the merger.

If the estimated pro forma market value of Community Plus Savings Bank or average trading price of our common stock as determined pursuant to the merger agreement is different at the time of the merger, then the number

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of shares issued to Citizens Community MHC will change. An increase or decrease in the number of shares to be issued in the merger would affect the pro forma ownership interest of our public shareholders.

The independent valuation is not intended, and must not be construed, as a recommendation of any kind as to the advisability of purchasing our shares. RP Financial did not independently verify the financial statements and other information provided by Community Plus Savings Bank and us, nor did RP Financial value independently the assets or liabilities of the banks. The independent valuation considers Community Plus Savings Bank as a going concern. The independent valuation therefore should not be considered as an indication of liquidation value. The valuation is necessarily based upon estimates and projections of a number of matters, all of which are subject to change from time to time.

Copies of the appraisal report and valuation update of RP Financial and the detailed memorandum of the appraiser setting forth the method and assumptions for such appraisal are available for inspection at our main office.

#### **Opinion of Our Financial Advisor**

We retained Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., a nationally recognized investment banking firm, on the basis of its reputation and experience to provide a written opinion as to the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the merger and the issuance of common stock to Citizens Community MHC as set forth in the merger agreement. Citizens Community Bancorp placed no limitations on Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. with respect to the investigation made, or procedures followed, by Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. in rendering its opinion.

Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., as part of its investment banking business, is regularly engaged in the valuation of financial institutions and their securities in connections with mergers and acquisitions, negotiated underwritings, secondary distributions of listed and unlisted securities and private placements. Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. is familiar with the market for common stocks of publicly traded banks, thrifts and bank and thrift holding companies. Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. also reviewed the negotiated terms of the merger agreement.

Pursuant to its engagement, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. delivered its opinion to the Board of Directors of Citizens Community Bancorp that, as of January 6, 2005, the issuance of 612,989 additional shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock to Citizens Community MHC (based on a \$9.25 million preliminary estimate of the appraised value of Community Plus Savings Bank by RP Financial as of December 21, 2004, and Citizens Community Bancorp's average closing price of \$15.09 per share for the fifteen-day trading period ending December 21, 2004) was fair, from a financial point of view, to Citizens Community Bancorp's shareholders. Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. has consented to the inclusion herein of the summary of its opinion to the Citizens Community Bancorp Board of Directors and to the reference to the entire opinion attached hereto as Appendix B.

The full text of the opinion of Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., which is attached as Appendix B to this Proxy Statement, sets forth certain assumptions made, matters considered and limitations on the review undertaken by Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., and should be read in its entirety. The summary of the opinion of Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. set forth in this proxy statement is qualified in its entirety by reference to the opinion.

Prior to rendering its opinion, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. (i) reviewed publicly available financial data relating to Citizens Community Bancorp, including the annual reports to shareholders and Form 10-KSB for the year ended September 30, 2004, and annual financial statements for the year ended 2003 and 2002, and other information Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. deemed relevant; (ii) discussed with senior management the current position and prospective outlook for Citizens Community Bancorp; (iii) considered historical quotations and the prices of recorded transactions in Citizens Community Bancorp's common stock; (iv) reviewed financial and stock market data of other savings institutions, particularly in the Midwest region of the United States (v) reviewed the financial and structural terms of several other recent transactions involving mergers and acquisitions as well as several recent mutual-to-stock conversion valuations; (vi) reviewed financial data relating to Community Plus Savings Bank including: the December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001 audited financial statements, the regulatory financial reports filed for the quarters ended March 31, June 30, and September 30, 2004, and other information we deemed relevant; (vii) reviewed RP Financial's preliminary estimate of the pro forma appraised value of Community Plus Savings Bank as of December 21, 2004; and (viii) performed other analyses which Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. considered appropriate.

In rendering its opinion, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., performed a variety of standard valuation techniques including, but not limited to, analysis of comparable public institutions, analysis of recent comparable acquisition transactions, discounted cash flow analysis, and a pro forma analysis of the combined institutions.

#### Analysis of Comparable Public Institutions

In rendering its opinion, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. analyzed certain public institutions financially comparable to Community Plus Savings (the "Peer Group"). Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. compared the consideration issued to Citizens Community MHC relative to the market valuation of the Peer Group as of December

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21, 2004, based upon three industry-accepted ratios: price to book value, price to tangible book value and price to last twelve months' earnings. Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. examined the low, median and high values of the aforementioned ratios for the following Peer Group (i) all institutions in the Peer Group were thrift institutions and (ii) all institutions in the Peer Group had total assets under \$100 million. Twenty-eight institutions met the above criteria and were used in the Comparable Public Institutions analysis. Only nineteen of those institutions has readily available pricing information to include in the analysis.

Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. derived a range of pricing metrics for the aforementioned Peer Group, summarized the results and compared the range of values to the consideration issued to Citizens Community MHC. The comparable valuation parameters are presented in the table below:

	Price-to- Book Ratio	Price-to-Tangible Book Ratio	Price-to-Last- Twelve-Months Earnings
BancAffiliated, Inc.	120.7%	120.7%	9.4x
CCSB Financial Corp.	100.5%	100.5%	NM <sup>(2)</sup>
Community First Bancorp, Inc.	100.0%	100.0%	NM
Crazy Woman Creek Bancorp Incorporated	109.3%	111.6%	NA <sup>(3)</sup>
DSA Financial Corporation	101.7%	101.7%	NA
Farnsworth Bancorp, Inc.	138.3%	138.3%	13.9x
First Federal of Olathe Bancorp, Inc.	85.4%	85.4%	NA
First Niles Financial, Inc.	159.7%	159.7%	23.0x

FPB Financial Corp.	109.3%	109.3%	NA
Globe Bancorp, Inc.	94.7%	94.7%	26.8x
Home Building Bancorp, Inc.	98.1%	98.1%	34.3x
Home Financial Bancorp	112.4%	112.4%	21.4x
Indian Village Bancorp Inc.	99.5%	99.5%	19.6x
Mutual Community Savings Bank, Inc., SSB	60.7%	60.7%	34.5x
Rantoul First Bank, SB	156.9%	156.9%	NM
Redwood Financial, Incorporated	108.4%	108.4%	NA
Roebling Financial Corp, Inc.	224.4%	224.4%	31.8x
RSV Bancorp, Inc.	111.9%	111.9%	17.5x
SFB Bancorp, Inc.	95.8%	95.8%	NA
Low Value	60.7%	60.7%	9.4x
Median Value	108.4%	108.4%	22.2x
High Value	224.4%	224.4%	34.5x
Community Plus Savings Bank Acquisition Multiples (1)	80.3%	80.3%	44.7x

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on the preliminary independent appraised valuation of Community Plus Savings Bank on a fully converted basis as of December 21, 2004.

The price-to-book and price-to-tangible book acquisition multiples of 80.3% each for Community Plus Savings Bank are in the lower end of the range of 224.4% to 60.7% ratios for the Peer Group. Although the price-to-last-twelve-months earnings acquisition multiple of 44.7x for Community Plus Savings Bank is above the range of available ratios for the Peer Group that reported a loss for the twelve months.

This analysis of comparable public institutions reflected in the table above summarizes only a portion of the information analyzed by Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. in analyzing the merger and is not a complete description of the analysis performed in rendering its fairness opinion. Selecting portions of the analysis conducted by Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. or isolating certain aspects of the institutions in the Peer Group, without considering all analyses and factors could result in an incomplete or misleading view of the process for evaluating the merger.

### Analysis of Recent Comparable Acquisition Transactions

Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. also analyzed certain comparable merger and acquisition transactions of both pending and completed thrift deals ("Comparable Transactions"). Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. compared the acquisition price relative to three industry-accepted ratios: deal price to book value, deal price to tangible book value and deal price to last twelve months' earnings. The analysis included a comparison of the low, median and high values of the above ratios for pending and completed acquisitions, based on the following criteria: (i) all Comparable Transactions had a thrift institution target; (ii) all Comparable Transactions were announced after December 31, 2002;

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(iii) all Comparable Transactions had a target asset size less than \$100 million; and (iv) all Comparable Transactions had a target located in the Midwest region. As a result of the transaction criteria, nine transactions were used in the

<sup>(2)</sup> NM means not meaningful because these institutions reported a net loss for the twelve-month period.

<sup>(3)</sup> NA means not available because the institutions have no readily available pricing information.

analysis.

Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. derived a range of pricing metrics for the Comparable Transactions, summarized the results and compared the range of values to the consideration issued to Citizens Community MHC. The comparable deal value parameters are presented in the table below:

	Price-to- Book Ratio	Price-to-Tangible Book Ratio	Price-to-Last- Twelve-Months Earnings
Blue River Bancshares Inc./Unified Banking	140.3%	140.3%	NM <sup>(2)</sup>
Bourbon Bancshares Inc./Kentucky First Bancorp Inc.	164.2%	164.2%	21.7x
First Defiance Financial/Genoa S&L Company	148.8%	150.5%	NM
Garfield Acquisition Corp./Lenox Savings Bank	133.9%	133.9%	NM
Generations Bancorp/Generations Bank	125.8%	125.8%	31.3x
Great River Holding Co/First Fed Hldg Co. of Morris	137.2%	137.2%	10.8x
Liberty Bancshares Inc./StateFed Financial Corp.	125.1%	125.1%	NM
MIVI Acquisition Corp./Mississippi View Holding Co.	133.7%	133.7%	7.5x
NS&L Acquisition Corp./NS&L Bancorp Inc.	151.4%	151.4%	31.2x
Low Value	125.1%	125.1%	7.5x
Median Value	137.2%	137.2%	21.7x
High Value	164.2%	164.2%	31.3x
Community Plus Savings Bank Acquisition Multiples (1)	80.3%	80.3%	44.7x

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on the preliminary independent appraised valuation of Community Plus Savings Bank on a fully converted basis as of December 21, 2004

Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. viewed the Comparable Transactions as the most appropriate in deriving a comparable transaction value based on Community Plus Savings Bank's size, capital base and earnings. Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. viewed the three resulting metrics (price to book value, price to tangible book value and price to last twelve months earnings) from the Comparable Transactions as the key metrics used to evaluate the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the transaction.

The price-to-book and price-to-tangible book acquisition multiples of 80.3% each for Community Plus Savings Bank are below the range of 125.1% to 164.2% ratios for the Comparable Transactions. Although the price-to-last-twelve-months earnings acquisition multiple of 44.7x for Community Plus Savings Bank is above the range of available ratios for the Comparable Transactions, this ratio compares favorably to four target institutions in the Comparable Transactions that reported a loss for the twelve months.

This analysis of recent comparable acquisition transactions reflected in the table above summarizes only a portion of the information analyzed by Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. in analyzing the merger and is not a complete description of the analysis performed in rendering its fairness opinion. Selecting portions of the analysis conducted by Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. or isolating certain aspects of the institutions in the Comparable Transactions, without considering all analyses and factors could result in an incomplete or misleading view of the process for evaluating the merger.

#### Discounted Cash Flow Analysis

Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. performed a discounted cash flow analysis to estimate a range of present values of Community Plus Savings Bank. This range was determined by summing (i) the present value of the forecasted five year free cash flows of Community Plus

<sup>(2)</sup> NM means not meaningful because these institutions reported a net loss for the twelve-month period.

Savings Bank and (ii) the present value of a terminal value in year five received by applying a range of price to earnings multiples.

In calculating a terminal value for Community Plus Savings Bank's year five-cash flow, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. applied a range of multiples between 16.0x and 20.0x. In performing this analysis, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. used management estimates of cash flows for years one through three and applied a range of growth rates from 7% to 10% for years four and five. Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. discounted the combined cash flow stream and year five terminal value at a range of discount rates from 10.0% to 13.0%. Based on the foregoing criteria and assumptions, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. estimated that the theoretical present value of Community Plus Savings Bank ranged between \$9.32 million and \$13.33 million.

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The discounted cash flow analysis of Community Plus Savings Bank does not necessarily indicate actual values or actual future results and does not purport to reflect the prices at which any securities may trade at the present or at any time in the future. Discounted cash flow analysis is a widely used valuation methodology, but the results of this methodology are highly dependent upon numerous assumptions that must be made, including earnings growth rates, terminal values, projected capital structure, and discount rates.

#### Pro Forma Analysis

Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. also performed an analysis of the Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank combined to determine the pro forma impact to the combined balance sheet, income statement, estimated GAAP and cash (excluding the impact of the amortization of intangible assets) earnings per share, estimated tangible book value per share, return on average equity, and tangible equity to assets.

In performing its analysis, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. relied on certain assumptions about both companies. For Citizens Community Bancorp, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. relied on the following assumptions: (i) Citizens Community Bancorp's September 30, 2004 balance sheet and income statement data for the year ended September 30, 2004; (ii) the consideration to be paid to Citizens Community MHC as provided in the merger agreement, and (iii) a reduction in non-interest expenses as a result of the consolidation of certain duplicative back office functions, based on discussions with Citizens Community Bancorp's management. For Community Plus Savings Bank, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. relied on Community Plus Savings Bank's September 30, 2004 balance sheet and income statement data for the twelve months ended September 30, 2004. In preparing this pro forma analysis, Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. did not adjust Community Plus Savings Bank's financial information to reflect the impact of a full conversion. Since the full conversion valuation was only used to derive the merger consideration and will not actually take place, Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. believes using financial information as of September 30, 2004 most accurately reflects the impact of the merger.

Based on the aforementioned assumptions, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. estimated that the combined company would have significantly higher assets, loans, and deposits, while at the same time remaining well-capitalized for regulatory capital purposes. In addition, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. estimated that after the elimination of duplicative back office functions and full realization of anticipated cost savings, the combined company would have higher levels of net income and that Citizens Community Bancorp would realize a higher return on tangible equity and higher tangible book value per share. Although the merger is dilutive to earnings per share on a GAAP basis, Citizens Community Bancorp would realize higher levels of cash earnings per share.

The following table summarizes the pro forma impact of the merger:

	Citizens Community Bancorp	Community Plus Savings Bank	Adjustments	Pro Forma	
	(At and for the twelve months ended September 30, 2004)				
Assets (\$000s)	161,980	46,293	5,383 1	213,656	
Loans, net (\$000s)	152,376	28,653		181,029	
Deposits (\$000s)	127,976	41,889		169,865	
Equity (\$000s)	19,606	4,174	5,383 <sup>2</sup>	29,163	
Tangible Equity (\$000s)	19,258	4,172		23,430	
Tangible Equity to Assets (%)	11.91	9.01		11.27	
Net Income (\$000s)	837	203	$(52)^{3}$	988	
Earnings per Share (\$)	0.29			0.28	
Cash Earnings per Share (\$)	0.29			0.31	
Book Value per Share (\$)	6.45			7.98	
Tangible Book Value per Share (\$)	6.33			6.41	
Shares Outstanding	3,041,750		612,989 4	3,654,739	

<sup>1.</sup> Net intangibles created in the transaction.

Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. also considered each company's contribution, on a pre-merger adjusted basis, relative to each company's respective ownership in the pro forma entity. The following contribution analysis measures each institution's proportionate contribution (on a pre-merger adjusted basis) to the pro forma entity's financial information relative to its respective ownership in the pro forma entity. The Pro Forma column in the following table is the sum of Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank columns, which represent financial information for the last twelve months ended September 30, 2004. The following table presents a contribution analysis for the merger:

<sup>2.</sup> Elimination of target equity plus deal consideration.

<sup>3.</sup> After-tax impact of cost savings and amortization of the core deposit intangible.

<sup>4.</sup> Shares issued to Citizens Community, MHC.

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	Citizens Community Bancorp	Community Plus Savings Bank	Pro Forma	Citizens Community Bancorp	Community Plus Savings Bank		
		(In thousands)					
Assets (\$)	161,980	46,293	208,273	78%	22%		
Loans, net (\$)	152,376	28,653	181,029	84%	16%		
Deposits (\$)	127,976	41,889	169,865	75%	25%		
Equity (\$)	19,606	4,174	23,780	82%	18%		
Net Income (\$)	837	\$203	1,040	80%	20%		
Ownership Shares	3,041,750	612,989	3,654,739	83%	17%		

Community Plus Savings Bank's contribution to the pro forma entity based on assets, deposits, equity and net income is proportionately higher than its representative ownership stake in the pro forma entity, which supports the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the consideration paid in the merger.

In preparing the contribution analysis, Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. did not adjust Community Plus Savings Bank's financial information to reflect the impact of a full conversion. Since the full conversion valuation was only used to derive the merger consideration and will not actually take place, Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. believes using financial information as of September 30, 2004 most accurately reflects the impact of the merger.

#### Conclusion

Given that the value of the consideration to be paid in the merger, as of the date of the opinion, is in the lower end of the range of comparable public institutions and below the range of comparable transactions on a price to book value and price to tangible book value basis and is below the implied theoretical range of present values, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. believes that this analysis supports the fairness, from a financial point of view, to Citizens Community Bancorp of the issuance of the shares of its common stock to be issued to Citizens Community MHC as provided in the merger agreement.

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As a result of its pro forma analysis, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. concluded that the merger with Community Plus Savings Bank would create a larger, more competitive financial institution with a broader geographic footprint that would create the size and scale to remain competitive in a rapidly changing financial services competitive landscape. The stronger financial institution as a result of the merger, combined with the estimated cash earnings per share accretion, tangible book value per share accretion and the shares contributed by Community Plus Savings Bank are less than the equity and net income contributed supports the fairness of the merger consideration to the stockholders of Citizens Community Bancorp from a financial point of view.

Based on the above analyses, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. concluded that the consideration was fair, from a financial point of view, to shareholders of Citizens Community Bancorp. This summary does not purport to be a complete description of the analysis performed by Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. and should not be construed independent of the other information considered by Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. in rendering its opinion. Selecting portions of Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc.'s analysis or isolating certain aspects of the comparable transactions without considering all analysis and factors, could create an incomplete or potentially misleading view of the evaluation process.

In rendering its opinion, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. assumed and relied upon the accuracy and completeness of the financial information provided to it by Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank. In its review, with the consent of the Citizens Community Bancorp Board, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. did not undertake any independent verification of the information provided to it, nor did it make any independent appraisal or evaluation of the assets or liabilities and potential or contingent liabilities of Citizens Community Bancorp or Community Plus Savings Bank.

The fairness opinion of Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. is limited to the fairness as of its date, from a financial point of view, of the consideration to be paid in the Merger and does not address the underlying business decision to effect the merger (or alternatives thereto) nor does it constitute a recommendation to any stockholder of Citizens Community Bancorp as to how such stockholder should vote with respect to the merger proposal.

Furthermore, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. expresses no opinion as to the price or trading range at which shares of the pro forma entity will trade following the consummation of the merger.

In preparing its analysis, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance, business and economic conditions and other matters, many of which are beyond the control of Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. and Citizens Community Bancorp. The analyses performed by Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. are not necessarily indicative of actual values or future results, which may be significantly more or less favorable than suggested by such analyses and do not purport to be appraisals or reflect the prices at which a business may be sold.

Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. will receive a fee of \$35,000 for services rendered in connection with issuing a fairness opinion regarding the merger. As of the date of this proxy statement, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. has received \$25,000 of such fee, the remainder of the fee is due upon approval by our shareholders of the issuance of shares to Citizens Community MHC. In addition, Citizens Community Bancorp has agreed to indemnify Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the federal securities laws. Prior to execution of the Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc. Engagement Letter, Keefe, Bruyette &#38 Woods, Inc., provided Citizens Community Bancorp with consulting and appraisal services. The revenues derived from these services are insignificant when compared to the firm's total gross revenues.

#### Certain of Our Obligations in Connection with the Merger

Some members of the management and board of directors of Community Plus Savings Bank may have interests in the merger. Our board of directors was aware of these interests and considered them in approving the merger agreement.

*Employment of Brian P. Ashley.* Citizens Community Federal has agreed that on the closing date of the merger, it will offer Brian P. Ashley, the current President and Chief Executive Officer of Community Plus Savings Bank, employment as Senior Vice President of the Community Plus Division of Citizens Community Federal. Mr. Ashleys compensation as Senior Vice President of Citizens Community Federal will be the same as it is with Community Plus Savings Bank at the time of the merger.

Employment Agreement with Brian P. Ashley. Mr. Ashley currently has an employment agreement with Community Plus Savings Bank. This agreement provides him with certain employee benefits including salary and severance payments upon involuntary termination of employment for other than cause. It is currently expected that Mr. Ashley will continue his employment with Citizens Community Federal following the merger and that he will execute a new three-year employment agreement with Citizens Community Federal, which will be in substitution of and a replacement for all existing agreements and benefits he currently has with Community Plus Savings Bank. Mr. Ashley also will be entitled to participate in Citizens Community Federal's executive supplemental retirement income plan.

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Appointment of Community Plus Savings Bank Board Member to the Board of Citizens Community Federal. Upon completion of the merger, Mr. Ashley will be appointed to the Citizens Community Federal board of directors. He will be appointed to the class of directors whose term expires in 2007. In accordance with the Citizens Community Federal Bylaws, Mr. Ashley will be required to stand for election at the next annual meeting following the effective date of the merger. Following the closing of the merger, Mr. Ashley will be entitled to receive the same board and committee fees paid to other inside directors.

Appointment of Community Plus Savings Bank Board Members to the Advisory Board of Citizens Community Federal. Upon completion of the merger, Citizens Community Federal will appoint each current member of the former board of directors of Community Plus Savings Bank, other than Mr. Ashley, to a newly established advisory board. Following the closing of the merger, each of these directors will be entitled to receive \$300 per meeting attended and the ability to participate in Citizens Community Federal's directors' retirement plan.

Protection of Our Directors and Officers Against Claims. For a period of six years, Citizens Community Federal has agreed to indemnify and hold harmless each of our present and former directors and officers from liability and expenses arising out of matters existing or occurring at or before the consummation of the merger, to the fullest extent allowed under federal law and our charter and bylaws. Citizens Community Federal will advance any related costs to each of these persons as they are incurred. Citizens Community Federal also will maintain a policy of directors and officers liability insurance coverage for the benefit of our directors and officers for three years following consummation of the merger, subject to certain limitations on the amount of premiums to be paid.

#### **Approvals Needed to Complete the Merger**

In addition to the requisite approvals of our shareholders and the Community Plus Savings Bank members, completion of the merger and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement are subject to the prior approval of the Office of Thrift Supervision. In reviewing applications, the Office of Thrift Supervision must consider, among other factors, the financial and managerial resources and future prospects of the existing and resulting institutions and the convenience and needs of the communities to be served. In addition, the Office of Thrift Supervision may not approve a transaction if it will result in a monopoly or otherwise be anti-competitive.

In its consideration of the merger, the Office of Thrift Supervision must take into account the record of performance of Citizens Community Federal and Community Plus Savings Bank in meeting the credit needs of the entire community served by each institution, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. As part of the review process, bank regulatory agencies frequently receive comments and protests from community groups and others. Citizens Community Federal and Community Plus Savings Bank each received a "satisfactory" rating in their last community reinvestment examinations.

In addition, a period of 15 to 30 days must expire following approval by the Office of Thrift Supervision within which period the United States Department of Justice may file objections to the merger under the federal anti-trust laws. While we believe that the likelihood of such action by the Department of Justice is remote in this case, there can be no assurance that the Department of Justice will not initiate proceedings to block the merger. If a proceeding is instituted or challenge is made, we cannot ensure a favorable result.

The Office of Thrift Supervision is considering the application for approval of the transaction. The approval of any application merely implies the satisfaction of regulatory criteria for approval. Furthermore, regulatory approvals do not constitute an endorsement or recommendation of the merger or the share issuance.

#### **Accounting Treatment of the Merger**

The merger will be accounted for under the purchase method of accounting. Under this method of accounting, Citizens Community Federal and Community Plus Savings Bank will be treated as one company as of the date of the merger, and we will record the fair value of Community Plus Savings Bank's assets (including intangible assets which arise from either contractual or other legal rights) and liabilities on its consolidated financial statements. Acquisition costs in excess of the fair value of the net assets acquired will be recorded as goodwill. Goodwill will not be amortized for financial accounting purposes, but instead will be tested for impairment periodically. To the extent goodwill is impaired, its carrying value will be written down to its implied fair value and a charge will be made to earnings. However, core deposit and other intangibles recorded by us in connection with the merger will be amortized to expense over their estimated useful lives. These intangibles also will be subject to periodic impairment analyses and, if impaired, the carrying value will be written down to implied fair value with a

corresponding charge to earnings. Community Plus Savings Bank's results of operations will be included in our income statement after completion of the merger.

#### **Completion of the Merger**

The closing of the merger will take place on a date designated by us within 30 days following the date on which all of the conditions to the merger contained in the merger agreement are satisfied or waived, unless Citizens

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Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank agree to a later date. See "--Conditions to Completing the Merger." On the closing date, Citizens Community Federal will file articles of combination with the Office of Thrift Supervision to effect the merger. The merger will become effective at the time stated in the articles of combination.

We currently expect to complete the merger in the second calendar quarter of 2005. However, neither Citizens Community Bancorp nor Community Plus Savings Bank can guarantee when or if the conditions precedent to consummation of the merger will be satisfied.

#### **Conditions to Completing the Merger**

The respective obligations of Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank to effect the merger are subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions specified in the merger agreement, including:

- (1) approval of the merger agreement by our shareholders and Community Plus Savings Bank's members;
- (2) each party fulfilling their obligations under the merger agreement;
- (3) the continued accuracy of each party's representations and warranties;
- (4) obtaining regulatory approval from the Office of Thrift Supervision with such approval not containing a condition or requirement that would so materially affect the economic benefits of the merger that, had the condition been known, we would not have entered into the merger agreement;
- (5) the absence of any order, decree, or injunction of a court or agency of competent jurisdiction that would prevent the completion of the merger;
- (6) receiving officers' certificates from each other that confirm that each party's representations and warranties are materially true and that the party has performed in all material respects all of its obligations under the merger agreement; and
- (7) obtaining all necessary third party consents to the merger.

Our obligation to close is also contingent on the absence of any event or occurrence that would have or will reasonably result in any material adverse effect on Community Plus Savings Bank.

We cannot guarantee that all of these conditions will be satisfied or waived.

#### **Representations and Warranties**

Each party has made certain customary representations and warranties to the other party with respect to various matters, including its financial statements, capital structure, business, loans, investments, regulatory filings and benefit plans. These representations and warranties must generally remain accurate in all material respects through the completion of the merger. A party can terminate the merger agreement if the

other party's representations and warranties are not true and correct and have a material adverse effect on that other party. If the merger is completed, or if the merger agreement is terminated for some unrelated reason, the representations and warranties become void. You can find detailed information concerning these representations and warranties in Article III of the merger agreement located in Appendix A.

#### Cooperation and Conduct of Business; Agreement Not to Solicit Other Proposals

Each party has agreed, between the signing of the merger agreement and the completion of the merger, to cooperate in completing the merger and to avoid taking any action that would adversely affect or delay its ability to perform its obligations under the merger agreement or to complete the merger. In addition, Community Plus Savings Bank has agreed not to initiate, solicit, encourage or facilitate any acquisition proposal with a third party. An acquisition proposal means any proposal or offer with regard to:

- any merger, consolidation, share exchange, business combination, or other similar transaction involving Community Plus Savings Bank:
- any sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, transfer or other disposition of 25% or more of Community Plus Savings Bank's assets, in a single transaction or series of transactions; or
- any public announcement of a proposal, plan or intention to do any of the foregoing or any agreement to engage in any of the foregoing.

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Despite the agreement not to solicit other acquisition proposals, the Community Plus Savings Bank board of directors may generally negotiate or have discussions with, or provide information to, a third party who makes an unsolicited, written, bona fide acquisition proposal, provided that Community Plus Savings Bank has entered into a confidentiality agreement with the third party and the board of directors determines in good faith:

- after consultation with and based upon the written advice of its legal counsel, that failing to take such action would constitute a breach of its fiduciary duties under applicable law; and
- after consulting with its financial advisor, that such proposal would be more favorable to the Community Plus Savings Bank members than the Citizens Community Federal merger, taking into consideration all legal, financial, regulatory and other aspects of the acquisition proposal and the entity making the proposal (i.e., a "superior proposal").

If Community Plus Savings Bank determines that such unsolicited acquisition proposal is a superior proposal, Community Plus Savings Bank will have the right to terminate the merger agreement. However, before terminating the merger agreement, Community Plus Savings Bank must first provide us with three business days to match or exceed the terms of the superior proposal.

### **Waiver and Amendment**

Any provision in the agreement may be modified at any time by a written agreement between the parties. Additionally, any provision may be waived by the party benefitting from such provision.

#### **Terminating the Merger Agreement**

Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank can agree at any time not to complete the merger, even if our shareholders and Community Plus Savings Bank's members have approved it. Also, either Citizens Community Bancorp or Community Plus

Savings Bank can decide, without the consent of the other, to terminate the merger agreement:

- if the merger is not completed by December 31, 2005, unless the failure to complete the merger by that time is due to the failure of the party seeking to terminate the agreement to perform or observe its obligations set forth in the merger agreement;
- if any required shareholder or member approval is not obtained (provided that the party seeking to terminate the merger agreement on this basis has complied with its obligations to seek the approval of its shareholders and/or members as required under the merger agreement);
- if a required regulatory approval is denied or a governmental agency issues an order that precludes the consummation of the merger;
- if the other party materially breaches a representation, warranty or covenant that cannot be cured within 30 days and the effect of such breach (1) has or is reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the breaching party, and (2) precludes the breaching party from satisfying, in all material respects, any of its obligations under the merger agreement;
- by either party if the other party's board of directors does not recommend, or withdraws its recommendation, to its shareholders or members, as applicable, that such shareholders or members approve the merger; and
- by Community Plus Savings Bank, if the Community Plus Savings Bank board of directors authorizes Community Plus Savings Bank to enter into an agreement that the board determines is a superior proposal to the merger agreement with Citizens Community Federal (as described above). Community Plus Savings Bank must provide Citizens Community Federal within three business days to match or exceed such superior proposal.

#### **Termination Fee and Reimbursement of Expenses**

If the merger agreement is validly terminated by either party due to the other party's material and willful or intentional breach of any of its representations, warranties, covenants or agreements under the merger agreement, then the breaching party must pay the other party a termination fee of \$175,000. We would also be entitled to the \$175,000 termination fee if the merger agreement is terminated because Community Plus Savings Bank's board authorizes it to enter into a merger agreement with a third party.

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## **Pro Forma Financial Information**

This pro forma financial information, which was prepared by management of Citizens Community, gives effect to the pending merger as detailed below. It is not the pro forma analysis upon which Keefe, Bruyette and Woods issued its fairness opinion, which was based on the financial information and other facts available as of January 6, 2005 and did not reflect actual financial results through December 31, 2004.

The following unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined balance sheet as of December 31, 2004 and unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined statement of operations for the three months ended December 31, 2004 and for the year ended September 30, 2004 give effect to the pending merger, accounted for as a purchase. Because we have a September 30 fiscal year end and Community Plus Savings Bank has a December 31 fiscal year end, Community Plus Savings Bank's historical information has been adjusted to correspond to our fiscal year end. For the year ended September 30, 2004, Community Plus Savings Bank's historical information was calculated by adding the results for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and the results for the three months ended December 31, 2003.

The unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined financial information is based on the historical consolidated financial statements of Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank under the assumptions and adjustments set forth in the accompanying notes. The unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined balance sheet gives effect to the merger as if the merger had been consummated at the end of the period presented. The unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined statement of operations for the three months ended December 31, 2004 give effect to the merger as if the merger had been consummated on October 1, 2004. The unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined statement of operations for the year ended September 30, 2004 give effect to the merger as if the merger had been consummated on October 1, 2003. The unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined financial statements do not give effect to the anticipated cost savings in connection with the merger.

You should read the unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined financial statements in conjunction with the historical consolidated financial statements of Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank, including the respective notes to those statements. The pro forma information is intended for informational purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of the combined financial position or the results of operations in the future or of the combined financial position or the results of operations which would have been realized had the merger been consummated during the periods or as of the dates for which the pro forma information is presented.

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Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Condensed Combined Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2004 (In thousands)

Citizens Community Bancorp  Community Plus Savings Bank Pro Forma Adjustments  cash equivalents  \$ 4,639 \$ 12,375 \$		Historical		
sh equivalents \$4.639 \$12.375 \$		•	Plus Savings	Pro Forma Combined
\$ 4 639 \$12 375 \$				
$\phi = 0.5$	:S	\$ 4,639	\$12,375	\$ \$ 17,014

Investment securities held to maturity		1,967		1,967
Investment securities available for sale		2,106		2,106
Total investment securities		4,073		4,073
Loans receivable, net	158,949	28,073	(598) <sup>B</sup>	186,424
Office properties and equipment, net	2,267	896	(109) <sup>B</sup>	3,055
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	925	279		1,204
Accrued interest receivable	465	109		574
Core deposit intangible	342		1,749 <sup>B</sup>	2,091
Goodwill			4,905 <sup>C</sup>	4,905
Other assets	959	624		1,583
Total assets	\$168,546	\$46,430	\$5,947	\$220,923
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY: Liabilities:				
Deposits	\$129,073	\$41,966	\$ 18 <sup>B</sup>	\$171,057
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	18,500		· 	18,500
Other liabilities	1,174	332	534 B	2,040
Total liabilities	148,747	42,298	552	191,597
Stockholders' equity:				
Common stock	30		6 E, F	36
Additional paid-in capital	9,042		9,521 C, E, F	18,562
Retained earnings	11,830	4,120	(4,120) <sup>E</sup>	11,830
Unearned ESOP shares	(1,103)			(1,103)
Accumulated other comprehensive (net of tax)		11	(11) E	
Total shareholders' equity	19,799	4,131	5,395	29,326
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$168,546	\$46,430	\$5,947	\$220,923

See Notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Condensed Combined Financial Statements.

## Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated CondensedCombined Statement of Operations For the Three Months Ended December 31, 2004 (In thousands)

# Citizens Community Bancorp and Community Plus Savings Bank Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Condensed Combined Statement of Operations For the Three Months Ended December 31, 2004 (In thousands)

### Historical

	Citizens Community Bancorp	Community Plus Savings Bank	Pro Forma Adjustments	Pro Forma Combined
Interest and dividend income:				
Interest and fees on loans	\$2,635	\$ 302	\$ 19 D	\$2,956
Other	22	84		106
Total interest and dividend income	2,657	386	19	3,062
Interest expense	787	102	(1) <sup>D</sup>	888
Net interest and dividend income Provision for loan losses	1,870 100	284 6	20	2,174 106
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	1,770	278	20	2,068
Noninterest income:				
Service charges on deposit accounts	194			194
Insurance commissions	99			99

Other	68	13		81
Loan fees and service charges	4			4
Total noninterest income	365	13		378
Noninterest expense:				
Salary and related benefits	1,062	182	15 <sup>D</sup>	1,259
Occupancy-net	161	46	$(1)^{D}$	206
Office	153	63		216
Data processing	77	23		100
Amortization of core deposit intangible			60 <sup>D</sup>	60
Other	343	60		403
Total noninterest expense	1,796	374	74 <sup>D</sup>	2,244
Income before income tax expense	339	(83)	(54)	202
Income tax expense	139	(38)	(21) <sup>D</sup>	80
Net income	\$ 200	\$ (45)	\$ (33)	\$ 122
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See Notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Condensed Combined Financial Statements.

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# Historical

	Citizens Community Bancorp	Community Plus Savings Bank	Pro Forma Adjustments	Pro Forma Combined
Interest and dividend income:				
Interest and fees on loans	\$9,544	\$ 1,970	\$ 75 <sup>D</sup>	\$11,589
Other	75	205		280
Total interest and dividend income	9,619	2,175	75	11,869
Interest expense	2,889	416	(6) <sup>D</sup>	3,299
Net interest income	6,730	1,759	81	8,570
Provision for loan losses	396	13		409
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	6,334	1,746	81	8,161
Noninterest income:				
Service charges on deposit accounts	784			784
Insurance commissions	309			309
Other	259	37		296
Loan fees and service charges	17			17
Total noninterest income	1,369	37		1,406
Noninterest expense:				
Salary and related benefits	3,987	686	58 <sup>D</sup>	4,731
Occupancy-net	630	160	(4) <sup>D</sup>	786
Office	546	267		813
Data processing	301	96		397
Amortization of core deposit intangible			240 <sup>D</sup>	240
Other	859	269		1,128
Total noninterest expense	6,323	1,478	294	8,095

Income before income tax expense Income tax expense	1,380	305	(213)	1,472
	543	106	(83) <sup>D</sup>	566
Net income	\$ 837	\$ 199	\$(130) <sup>D</sup>	\$ 906

See Notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Condensed Combined Financial Statements.

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## Notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Condensed Combined Financial Statements

#### A. Basis of Presentation

The pro forma information presented is not necessarily indicative of the results of operations or the combined financial position or results of operation that would have resulted had the merger been consummated as of or for the periods indicated, nor is it necessarily indicative of the results of operations in future periods or the future financial position of the combined company. It is anticipated that the merger will be completed in the second quarter of calendar year 2005.

The unaudited pro forma consolidated financial information reflects the application of the purchase method of accounting. Under this method, the assets and liabilities of Community Plus Savings Bank will be recorded at their estimated fair values at the effective time. As described in the accompanying notes, the estimated fair values of the assets and liabilities of Community Plus Savings Bank have been combined with the historical carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities of Citizens Community Bancorp and subsidiaries. However, changes to pro forma adjustments reflected herein are expected as valuations of assets and liabilities are completed and additional information becomes available. In addition, this pro forma information does not take into account the after tax effect of \$127,000 in capitalized costs that Community Plus Savings Bank will have to recognize as current expenses immediately prior to the merger. Accordingly, the final combined amounts will differ from the pro forma combined amounts presented herein.

The unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined statement of operations for the three months ended December 31, 2004 give effect to the merger as if the merger had been consummated on October 1, 2004. The unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined statements of operations for the year ended September 30, 2004 give effect to the merger as if the merger occurred on October 1, 2003. The unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined balance sheet assumes the merger was consummated on December 31, 2004. Certain reclassifications have been included in the unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined statements of operations to conform the presentation.

Assumptions relating to the pro forma adjustments set forth in the unaudited pro forma consolidated condensed combined financial statements are summarized as follows:

Estimated fair values for the assets and liabilities of Community Plus Savings Bank were obtained as follows:

Cash and Cash Equivalents. The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents approximate their fair value.

Investment and Mortgage-Backed Securities. Fair values for securities are based on quoted market prices.

Stock in Federal Home Loan Bank and Other Restricted Equity Securities. No ready market exists for these stocks and they have no quoted market value; however, redemption of these stocks has historically been at par value. Accordingly, the carrying amount is deemed to be a reasonable estimate of fair value.

Loans. Fair values for loans held for investment and other loans are estimated by segregating the portfolio by type of loan and discounting scheduled cash flows using interest rates currently being offered for loans with similar terms. A prepayment assumption is used as an estimate of the portion of loans that will be repaid prior to their scheduled maturity. The allowance for loan losses as recorded is deemed to be a reasonable estimate of the credit adjustment.

Office Properties and Equipment. The fair value of office properties is based on management's best estimate of current fair value. The book value of equipment is deemed to be a reasonable estimate of fair value.

Deposits. The fair values disclosed for demand deposits (e.g., interest and noninterest checking, passbook savings and market accounts) are, by definition, equal to the amount payable on demand at the reporting date (i.e., their carrying amounts). Fair values for fixed-rate certificate accounts are estimated using a discounted cash flow calculation that applies interest rates currently being offered on certificates to a schedule of aggregated expected monthly maturities on certificate accounts.

Identifiable Intangible Assets. A fair value for the core deposit intangible asset was estimated by calculating a 5.13% premium on core deposits of \$34.1 million.

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Other Assets and Other Liabilities. Because these financial instruments will typically be received or paid within three months, the carrying amounts of such instruments are deemed to be a reasonable estimate of fair value.

The discount on loans will be accreted to interest income over eight years so as to approximate a constant yield to maturity. The fair market value adjustment for deposits will be accreted to interest expense over three years so as to approximate a constant yield to maturity. The decrease in premises to fair value will be accreted over a 30-year period as a reduction to expense.

#### B. Purchase Accounting Adjustments

Purchase accounting adjustments are estimated as follows (in thousands):

Decrease value of investments

\$ 0

Decrease value of building	(109)
Decrease value of loans	(598)
Increase liability for term deposits	(18)
Increase pension liability	(220)
Core deposit intangible recorded	1,749
Deferred tax liability	(314)
Total	490
Equity of Community Plus	4,132
Total fair value of net assets acquired	\$4,622

Refinements to the foregoing estimates may occur subsequent to the completion of the merger.

## C. Calculation of Goodwill

Excess of cost over the fair value of net assets acquired for the merger was calculated as follows (in thousands):

Cost	\$9,250
Business combination costs	277
Total cost	9,527
Fair value of net assets acquired	4,622
Total excess of cost over the fair value of net assets acquired	\$4,905

## D. Pro Forma Income Statement Adjustments

Pro forma income statement adjustments that were calculated for the merger are as follows (In thousands):

	For the Year	For the Three	
	Ended	<b>Months Ended</b>	
	September 30,	December 31,	
	2004	2004	
	Income	Income	
	(Expense)	(Expense)	
		1	-
accretion of discount on investments	\$ 0	\$ (	)

Accretion of discount on loans receivable	75	19
Accretion of fair value adjustment for building	4	1
Accretion of fair value adjustment for term deposits	6	1
Provision for deferred compensation	(58)	(15)
Income tax expense	83	21
Amortization of core deposit intangible asset	(240)	(60)
Total adjustments	\$(130)	\$(33)

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Income tax benefit is adjusted using a combined effective tax rate of 39%.

The following table summarizes the estimated net future impact of the amortization of the purchase accounting adjustments, including the provision for officer and director deferred compensation, made in connection with the merger on our results of operations (in thousands):

Fiscal Years Ended September 30,	Net Increase (Decrease) In Net Income of Amortized Amounts
2005	\$(133)
2006	\$(135)
2007	\$(141)
2008	\$(143)
2009	\$(146)
2010 and thereafter	\$(229)

### E. Transfer of Capital

Amounts reclassed from Retained Earnings and Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income represent recognized value of Community Plus Savings Bank.

#### F. Issuance of Shares to Citizens Community MHC

Based on the average closing price of common stock of Citizens Community Bancorp of \$15.09 per share for the fifteen trading days ended December 21, 2004, the \$9.25 million valuation appraisal of Community Plus Savings Bank, the resulting issuance of 612,889 shares of

common stock of Citizens Community Bancorp, \$.01 par value and a total purchase price of \$9.5 million (see Note C). This results in an increase of \$6,000 to common stock and an increase of \$9.5 million to additional paid-in capital.

#### G. Earnings Per Share

When presented, basic earnings per share is computed by dividing income available to common shareholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per share reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other contracts to issue common stock were exercised or converted into common stock or resulted in the issuance of common stock that then shared in the earnings of the entity. Because the initial stock offering by Citizens Community Bancorp was not completed until March 29, 2004, per share earnings data is not meaningful and is therefore not presented.

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### Community Plus Savings Bank Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Community Plus Savings Bank Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations for the Years Ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

The following analysis of Community Plus Savings Bank's results of operations and financial condition at and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003 should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and accompanying notes of Community Plus Savings Bank presented on pages F-1 through F-16 in this proxy statement.

#### Comparison of Financial Condition at December 31, 2004 and 2003

Community Plus Savings Bank's total assets increased by \$838,000, or 1.8%, to \$46.4 million at December 31, 2004, from \$45.6 million at December 31, 2003 primarily from an increase in available-for-sale investment securities and cash and cash equivalents partially offset by a decrease in net loans receivable. Cash and cash equivalents increased \$3.8 million, or 46.3% to \$12.0 million at December 31, 2004 from \$8.2 million at December 31, 2003. Net loans receivable decreased by \$4.9 million, or 14.9%, to \$28.1 million at December 31, 2004, from \$33.0 million at December 31 2003. The decrease in loans reflects a slowdown of residential real estate loan originations during the year ended December 31, 2004. Investments, including time deposits and stock in the Federal Home Loan Bank, increased by \$5.2 to \$15.8 million at December 31, 2004 from \$10.6 million at December 31, 2003, due to the increase in investment in corporate notes.

Total deposits increased \$631,000, or 1.5%, to \$42.0 million at December 31, 2004 from \$41.3 million at December 31, 2003. The increase in deposits was primarily due to an increase in time deposits and share accounts, partially offset by a decrease in money market accounts. Retained earnings increased \$88,000, or 2.2%, to \$4.1 million at December 31, 2004 from \$4.0 million at December 31, 2003 due to

net income for the year ended December 31, 2004.

### Comparison of Operating Results for the Years Ended 2004 and 2003

**General.** Net income decreased \$159,000, or 64.9%, to \$86,000 for the year ended December 31, 2004 from \$245,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003. The decrease in net income resulted primarily from a decrease in net interest income of \$237,000.

**Interest Income.** Total interest income decreased by \$313,000, or 15.3%, to \$1.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 from \$2.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2003. The decrease was due to a decline in the average yield on interest-earning assets to 3.9% for the year ended December 31, 2004 from 4.7% for the year ended December 31, 2003 as well as a decrease in the average balance of loans.

**Interest Expense.** Total interest expense decreased \$75,000, or 15.5%, to \$410,000 for the year ended December 31, 2004 from \$485,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003. The decrease in interest expense resulted from a decrease in the average cost of deposits to 1.2% for the year ended December 31, 2004 from 1.5% for the year ended December 31, 2003 reflecting lower market interest rates during the period.

**Net Interest Income.** Net interest decreased by \$237,000, or 15.2%, to \$1.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 from \$1.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2003, primarily as a result of a decrease in Community Plus Savings Bank's net interest spread from 3.4% during the year ended December 31, 2003 to 2.8% for the year ended December 31, 2004. The decrease reflected a further reduction in origination of first mortgages and in interest rates. Community Plus Savings Bank's net interest margin decreased to 3.02% during the year ended December 31, 2004, from 3.54% for the year ended December 31, 2003.

**Provision for Loan Losses.** Community Plus Savings Bank establishes provisions for loan losses, which are charged to operations, at a level necessary to absorb losses inherent in the loan portfolio. In evaluating the level of the allowance for loan losses, management considers historical loan loss experience, the types of loans and the amount of loans in the loan portfolio, adverse situations that may affect the borrower's ability to repay, the estimated value of any underlying collateral, peer group information, and prevailing economic conditions. This evaluation is inherently subjective as it requires judgments that are susceptible to significant revision as more information becomes available or as future events change. Based on Community Plus Savings Bank's evaluation of these factors, management made a \$19,000 provision for the year ended December 31, 2004 as compared to a \$45,000 provision for the year ended December 31, 2003. The allowance for loan losses was \$41,000, or 0.15% of loans outstanding at December 31, 2004, as compared with \$53,000, or 0.16% of loans outstanding at December 31, 2003.

**Noninterest Income.** Noninterest income decreased by \$19,900, or 6.0%, to \$311,000 for the year ended December 31, 2004, as compared to \$331,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003. Community Plus Savings Bank recognized nonrecurring losses on the sale of a company-owned vehicle of \$5,000, which reduced noninterest income during the year ended December 31, 2004.

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**Noninterest Expense.** Noninterest expense decreased by \$14,000, or 0.9%, to \$1.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 from \$1.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2003. The decrease was primarily attributable to a drop in charges for nonsufficient funds.

**Income Tax Expense.** The provision for income taxes decreased to \$28,000 for the year ended December 31, 2004 from \$107,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003. The decrease was partly due to Community Plus Savings Bank's lower level of income before taxes of \$114,000 for the year ended December 31, 2004, compared with \$351,000 for year ended December 31, 2003.

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#### Stock Ownership of Directors and Executive Officers and More Than 5% Owners.

The following table sets forth, as of the May 6, 2005 voting record date, information regarding share ownership of: (1) those persons or entities (or groups of affiliated person or entities) known by management to beneficially own more than five percent of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock other than directors and executive officers; (2) each director of Citizens Community Bancorp; (3) each "named" executive officer of Citizens Community Bancorp as a group.

The address of each of the beneficial owners, except where otherwise indicated, is the same address as Citizens Community Bancorp. An asterisk (\*) in the table indicates that an individual beneficially owns less than one percent of the outstanding common stock of Citizens Community Bancorp.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC. As of the record date, there were 3,015,518 shares of Citizens Community Bancorp common stock outstanding. In computing the number of shares beneficially owned by a person and the percentage ownership of that person, shares of common stock subject to outstanding options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days after May 6, 2005 are included in the number of shares beneficially owned by the person and are deemed outstanding for the purpose of calculating the person's percentage ownership. These shares, however, are not deemed outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person.

Beneficial Owners	Number of Shares Beneficially Owned <sup>(1)</sup>	Percent of Common Stock Outstanding
Beneficial Owners of More Than 5% Other than Directors and Named Executive Officers		
Citizens Community MHC 2174 EastRidge Center Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701	2,063,100	68.4%
	119,236	4.0%

Citizens Community Bancorp Employee Stock Ownership Plan Trust<sup>(2)</sup> 2174 EastRidge Center Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

Directors and Named Executive Officers

Directors:

Richard McHugh<sup>(3)</sup> 92,152 3.1%