

Sandhills Bank



Dear Valued Customer:

We are writing to make sure you are aware of the upcoming merger of Sandhills Holding Company, Inc., parent company of Sandhills Bank, with Citizens Bancshares Corporation, parent company of Olanta, South Carolina-based The Citizens Bank.

We are very enthusiastic about this new partnership, from which an even stronger financial institution will be created. Our banking philosophies are very similar, and we have many operational similarities as well. This combination will strengthen our ability to serve our local markets, individuals, and businesses that have made Sandhills Bank and The Citizens Bank successful. We look forward to our future together and the substantial impact our bank will have on the communities that we serve.

The combined bank will be headquartered in Olanta and will offer 19 additional locations serving Turbeville, Lynchburg, Lake City, Scranton, Sumter, Pawleys Island, Timmonsville, St. George, Florence, Pamplico, Johnsonville, Georgetown, Kingstree, Murrells Inlet, Hartsville, McBee, Camden and Carolina Forest.

The merger is dependent on receiving all regulatory approvals and the approval of Sandhills Holding Company's shareholders. In the meantime, please continue to do your banking as usual. We expect to complete the systems conversion the weekend of July 22. All existing Sandhills Bank locations will then open as The Citizens Bank on Monday, July 25. In preparation for that weekend, you will receive a Welcome Guide from The Citizens Bank in June that will contain important information about your account, key dates, and other conversion facts. Upon receipt, we encourage you to read through the guide and keep it handy throughout the conversion process. Please visit www.tcbsc.bank for ongoing updates so you can stay informed. Our goal is to make this transition as smooth and simple as possible.

We assure you that the core values shared by both Sandhills Bank and The Citizens Bank will guide our team as we grow throughout our combined markets. As the transition progresses, you will find this is not just a merger of two financial institutions. It is a blending of strengths, banking conveniences, and service enhancements that will enable us to help you and your community achieve more.

If you have any questions regarding this upcoming transition, please feel free to contact us at any time. We look forward to serving you as we move forward – together.

Sincerely,

Jim Smith
President and CEO
Sandhills Bank

Thomas Bouchette
President
The Citizens Bank



1020 Highway 17 North, North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582
843-280-2265

