

# First State Bank of Purdy

## Small-Town Bank Serves Business Customers Throughout Missouri

When a machine tool shop in Kansas City needed to purchase a \$350,000 computerized milling machine, the owner applied for a loan through a well-known national bank. Weeks later, not having received an answer from the big bank, he reached out to First State Bank of Purdy (Missouri).

"We had him fax his information to us," says Ann Hall, president of First State Bank (FSB). "We called him back the same day and told him to go ahead and order the machine. We covered the loan."

It might have helped matters that First State Bank's owner, Glen Garrett, is a former machine tool shop owner himself who understands the unique needs of other entrepreneurs. Indeed, Garrett bought one-half interest in FSB in 1974 to provide businesses and consumers with a level of personal attention not usually associated with megabanks. Since then, he has become sole owner, and FSB has grown from \$2 million in assets to an average of approximately \$130 million.

"We understand what it takes for a business to get started and to compete in the world," Hall says. "We are also strong when it comes to agricultural lending, especially for small farmers, dairy farmers and poultry producers. Most of the people who work at First State Bank come from farm backgrounds."

With six locations in southwestern Missouri, First State Bank serves customers throughout the state, with online



Ann Hall

services such as remote deposit capture, Internet banking, Internet bill pay and more. FSB has always been at the forefront of banking technology, having worked closely with Jack Henry & Associates, Inc., the Missouri-based banking and software giant, since 1976, when that company was still small.



First State Bank of Purdy owner Glen Garrett and Chamber Director Suzy McElmurry in front of the Monett Chamber of Commerce headquarters, which FSB played an important role in building.

"They used to be located behind us when we had just one storefront in Purdy, and we worked together," Hall says. "Now they are one of the largest companies of their kind, and we still use their products. We offer the same top-of-the-line technology that the big national banks have."

But high-tech banking does not mean impersonal banking. FSB's friendly staff takes pride in remembering customers' names. Hall, who worked her way up from teller to president, spends as much time interacting with customers as sitting behind a desk.

"There are people who have known me for 30 years, and they only want me to take care of them," she says with a laugh. "There's one lady who has trouble balancing her checkbook, and she asks me to take care of it for her because her children went to school with me."

Equally important as customer service is *community* service. FSB's employees and officers are active in schools, churches and many nonprofit organizations. The bank spearheaded the construction of a Chamber of Commerce building in Monett. FSB also funds scholarships for hard-working students.

"I'm passionate about this bank," Hall says. "I enjoy working with our fantastic staff and seeing the impact we are having on people's lives."

106 E. Cleveland Avenue • Monett, MO 65708-1405  
417.235.6100 • 800.391.2535  
[www.fsb-purdy.com](http://www.fsb-purdy.com)



Purdy, MO  
417.442.3247

Monett, MO (2 locations)  
417.235.6100  
417.236.2710 (SuperCenter)

Pierce City, MO  
417.476.2615

Cassville, MO (2 locations)  
417.847.6623  
417.847.8043 (SuperCenter)