## YOUR MONEY

## Bank of Belleville establishing regional presence with three new banks

Ron Stephens, chief executive officer for Bank of Belleville, knows the key to his bank's success is through client relationships. At the core of its business model is a commitment to community banking and hiring team members who understand the areas they serve.

The bank, which recently eclipsed \$250 million in total assets, has had a single location in Belleville, Illinois but is now expanding with banks in Clinton, Madison and Monroe Counties. Bank of Madison County opens in Edwardsville this year. Bank of Clinton County and Bank of Monroe County locations will break ground in Fall 2020, with both expected to open in 2021. Stephens said its growth strategy is allowing Bank of Belleville to continue its mission as a community and relationship-driven bank while establishing a regional presence

across the Metro East.

"Our bank's success is built on our relationships with clients, so placing the right people in each of these markets, who really understand the community, is key," said Stephens. "We are investing in brick and mortar locations so our teams can work within and contribute to the communities where they live."

Stephens said each of its new banks



will operate under the name of the county they serve and will be led by a Market President who knows that community. Paul Abert will serve as the market president for Bank of Madison County, Todd Juehne will serve as the market president for Bank of Clinton County and Ryan Osterhage will serve as market president for Bank of Monroe County.

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Stephens added that each bank will be full service, specializing in business and personal loans. "Our mission and promise of 'Smaller Bank, Bigger Service, Stronger Community' is at the forefront of everything we do," said Stephens. "While our bank embraces the newest technologies, we take pride in our 'throwback' approach to banking, meaning at each of our banks, we want our clients to have the ability to speak directly with decision-makers, who can promptly meet every client's needs."

Bank of Belleville operates from its

headquarters at 215 S. Illinois St. in Belleville. Commitment to client and community service is at the forefront of everything they do, Stephens said.

The 15-year-old bank, with one-quarter of a billion dollars in assets, serves individual and business clients throughout the Metro East. The bank currently has 50 full- and part-time team members. For more information about Bank of Belleville, go to www.bankofbelleville. com

## COMMUNITY

IS AT THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING WE DO.

Bank of Belleville makes a significant impact on our local economy through funding projects, creating jobs, supporting local organizations, volunteering, and partnering with local businesses.



Smaller Bank • Bigger Service • Stronger Community

We are an SBA Preferred Lender, meaning we have the experience and financial tools to help small businesses thrive.