



NEWS

For Immediate Release

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Blackhawk State Bank Announces Purchase of East Moline Property

Milan, IL- (May 19, 2006) - Blackhawk State Bank, with \$640 million in assets is a full-service, locally owned and operated bank headquartered in Milan, IL. The bank currently serves Quad City customers in Milan, Coal Valley, Rock Island, Moline, Silvis, Colona and Geneseo.

Blackhawk State Bank is pleased to announce the purchase of land intended for a new full-service branch with three and a half remaining acres reserved for future retail or commercial development projects. The newly acquired property is located in East Moline, IL at the site of the former Eagle Grocery Store at Archer Drive & Avenue of the Cities.

W. Gerard Huiskamp, President, is proud of the establishment of a new Blackhawk State Bank branch in the East Moline community. "Blackhawk Bank has served Quad City residents since 1961. Our expansion into East Moline is a strong testament to the fact that we truly are a locally owned and operated bank that is not for sale. We are bank that is growing and prospering," said Mr. Huiskamp. The new East Moline branch will compliment the current 70th Street, Moline branch and the Silvis branch. "We look to this full service branch to be a convenient location for our existing customers and as well as future customers," added Mr. Huiskamp.

The newest addition to our Blackhawk Bank locations will be under the leadership of David Lamb, Vice President. Mr. Lamb has loyally served the East Moline community for the past 34 years. Mr. Lamb, a personal and commercial loan officer is looking forward to serving the East Moline market once again. "I am excited about getting back to my home base of East Moline" Mr. Lamb said, "The customers I have served over the years are great assets to our community. I am looking forward to reuniting with my old friends and meeting new friends."

The new bank plans are similar to our most recent construction project in Silvis. The new East Moline branch will be approx. 4,500 square ft, with full service amenities including customer service staff, a full time lending officer, four drive in lanes and a drive-up ATM. The bank will be opening a temporary facility as soon as approval is received from bank regulators. Construction on the permanent building will begin this summer.

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