



Cornell Grad Joins Bank Team



Cornellian Blake Soto has joined the bank as a loan administrator.

He joins a team that not only processes loans and assists loan officers, but helps customers with a myriad of questions.

“Blake has hit the ground running,” said Senior Vice President Jake Krob. “He’s great with customers and is a good fit for your community bank.”

Soto grew up in Oak Park, Illinois. Recruited to play soccer for Cornell, he was further drawn to the school after learning about its block plan.

“I was also interested in being in a small town,” Soto said, noting that Cornell College is about half the size of his high school.

He graduated from Cornell in 2023, after a successful academic and Rams soccer career. For the past year, he worked at the Lester Buresh Family Community Wellness Center. He said interacting with people there made him even “more fond of the town. There’s a strong sense of community.”

Soto has also officiated middle and high school soccer matches, and helped with Cornell’s youth soccer camp. He anticipates getting more involved with local soccer, which continues to grow in the Mount Vernon-Lisbon area.



Volume 35, Issue 9
September 2024
Member FDIC

Upcoming Events:

Sept 21st, Lincoln Highway Arts Festival. Uptown Mount Vernon 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Oct 19th, Mount Vernon Chili Cookoff. Public Tasting 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

For more information on community events, go to visitmvl.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE

Our upper parking lot construction project is well underway, starting with removal and replacement of a retaining wall. Contractors will do their best to keep customer disruptions to a minimum.

HOW WE’LL COMMUNICATE

- Social Media Messages (Facebook and X/Twitter)
- Messages through Online Banking, including the app
- Posts on our website

WATCH FOR THIS SIGN

If this sign is out, the drive-up is open.
If you don’t see it, the drive-up is closed



Great Turn Out

We served over 300 sandwiches at our Customer Appreciation Lunch. While the weather was on the warm side, we were still able to enjoy spending time with everyone. Thank you to the Mount Vernon Investment Center team for the ice cream sundaes.



Homestead Tax Exemption for Claimants 65 or Older

From the Iowa Department of Revenue website, <https://revenue.iowa.gov/taxes/tax-guidance/property-tax/homestead-tax-credit-and-exemption>. Consult with your tax accountant for eligibility and more details.

In addition to the homestead tax credit, eligible claimants who are 65 years of age or older on or before January 1 of the assessment year are now eligible for a homestead tax exemption. For the assessment year beginning on January 1, 2023, the exemption is for \$3,250 of taxable value. For assessment years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, the exemption is for \$6,500 of taxable value. Claimants are able to file a claim for this exemption on the same form as the claim for credit. When a homestead credit claim is approved, the exemption will also be granted if the claimant meets the age criteria for that assessment year. If the claim for the exemption is successful, the exemption will be applied in successive years without needing to file again. Unlike the homestead tax credit, the state will not be reimbursing the exemption.

Fall Color Guide

As the weather starts to cool, thoughts begin to turn to Fall and the natural beauty that surrounds us.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources' website, <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Forestry/Fall-Color> is a great resource for information and alerts.

The website offers information on peak timing, a Fall Color Report, tree color facts and more.

With Palisades-Kepler State Park so close, it is easy to take a drive and enjoy the colors.

