

PRESS RELEASE



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BEN CRAFT JOINS BANTERRA BANK AS BANKING CENTER MANAGER FOR CARBONDALE AND CARTERVILLE; FERN MARTIN AND JANET POLETE SERVE AS ASSISTANT BRANCH MANAGERS FOR NEW TEAM

Carbondale and Carterville, IL- Banterra is pleased to announce that Ben Craft has joined Banterra's Central Division as Banking Center Manager. He will manage both Carbondale and Carterville locations. Supporting Craft is Fern Martin as Assistant Branch Manager for Carterville (located at 108 E. Plaza Drive) and Janet Polete as Assistant Branch Manager for Carbondale (located at 1917 W. Main Street).

"Ben's financial experience and familiarity with this market make him a great addition to our Carbondale and Carterville team," said Jeff Speith, Market Executive for Banterra Bank. "Fern and Janet's customer relations skills will enable them to serve our customers needs and improve ties to their communities. "I am confident that Ben, Fern, and Janet will bring strong service values to our customers."

A lifetime resident of Carterville, Ben knows the area well. He graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing. Upon graduation, he joined the Herrin Banterra team as a teller. Since then, Craft went on to work in property management in the Carbondale market where he oversaw the overall operation of a large, corporately owned student apartment complex. Under Craft's leadership, the complex became an award-winning property that consistently displayed growth in occupancy in a competitive market. He is excited to bring his team management skills, budgetary expertise, and knowledge of the market back to the Banterra team.

A resident of DeSoto, Fern Martin has strong ties to her local community. Previously working at Banterra's Herrin location, she is excited to bring her management experience to Banterra's Carterville location. Martin contributes strong customer services skills and branch experience, including an expertise in increasing sales goals, maintaining monthly contact with customers and leading a team in order to meet their goals.

A resident of Murphysboro, Polete supports community-minded missions. Polete brings 25 years of banking knowledge to our team. With her experience, she has knowledge of teller operations along with knowledge of deposit support. She enjoys working with new clients and beginning strong financial relationships.

In addition to Craft, Martin, and Polete, Banterra welcomed Shane Carsrud to the Central team in August of 2015 as a Commercial Lender under the leadership of Jeff Speith, who joined the Banterra team as a Market Executive for Banterra's Central Region in March of 2015.

Banterra Bank began as a single bank in Ridgway, Illinois in July of 1975. Today, Banterra is the largest locally-owned bank in the region with more than \$1.3 billion in assets and 36 locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Missouri. For more information, contact us at 866-BANTERRA (226-8377), or go to www.banterra.com.

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