



NEWS RELEASE

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Northwest Celebrates Grand Opening of its Holding Company Headquarters in Columbus, Announces Partnership with the National Veterans Memorial and Museum

Programs to create opportunities for low-to-moderate income communities also introduced

Columbus, Ohio (April 20, 2022) - [Northwest Bank](https://www.northwest.com), a full-service financial institution offering a complete line of business and personal banking products, celebrated the official opening of its holding company headquarters, Northwest Bancshares, Inc., in Columbus, Ohio on April 19 with two announcements reflecting the bank's commitment to creating opportunities for low-to-moderate income individuals, families and communities.

During a headquarters grand opening celebration, Northwest Bank Chairman, President, and CEO Ronald J. Seiffert announced a formal partnership with the National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM), pledging \$100,000 to form "National Veterans Memorial and Museum Connects" presented by Northwest Bank.



Through this strategic partnership with the NVMM, Northwest Bank will create greater access to the National Veterans Memorial and Museum for low to moderate-income individuals and families, opening up a wide range of in-person and virtual programming to meet the needs of the diverse central Ohio community. It is grounded in the belief that the lessons of selflessness, service, and sacrifice that are featured in the exhibits and programming of the National Veterans Memorial and Museum should be universally accessible.

In another announcement, Mr. Seiffert also highlighted Northwest's commitment to providing \$250 million in community development loan originations in the Columbus market. This total includes home mortgage lending, small business and commercial loans targeted to low and

moderate-income individuals and areas for affordable housing, economic development, and community service activities.

“At Northwest, we’re passionate about giving back to communities in a meaningful way. We look forward to continuing that tradition in Columbus, beginning with the contributions we highlighted today,” said Mr. Seiffert. “We are privileged to create greater accessibility and educational programming through National Veterans Memorial and Museum Connects, and empower people, businesses and neighborhoods in Central Ohio to achieve their dreams through our community development loan commitment.”

“Thank you to Ron Seiffert and his team at Northwest Bank for this generous donation to support museum access for underserved communities,” said Lt. General Michael Ferriter, U.S. Army (Retired), president and CEO of the National Veterans Memorial and Museum. “We look forward to sharing inspiring stories of service with new audiences through the National Veterans Memorial and Museum Connects program presented by Northwest Bank.”

In 2020, Northwest’s board and leadership committed to relocating the holding company headquarters to ensure its ability to grow and compete in a highly complex, ever-changing banking environment. Northwest analyzed several potential markets, evaluating factors such as location, workforce trends, competition, and cost-to-relocate. Columbus was selected because the city met a number of important criteria, including:

- an existing presence in the market for Northwest, which established Columbus as a hub through an operational center that was opened in 2019
- its central location within Northwest’s existing footprint and areas where the bank plans to grow
- its position as the sixth largest financial services sector in the US, which will help recruit and retain top talent
- the region’s business-friendly environment.

“Northwest and Columbus share many similar attributes, which made our decision to relocate to Columbus an easy one,” said Tim Fannin, lead director, Northwest Board of Directors. “At Northwest, we’re big enough to provide the innovative solutions and technology that people, and companies need today, and small enough to deliver them in a personal, relationship-focused way. We see the same thing in Columbus—a vibrant, growing, and forward-thinking city that’s also held strong to its friendly, hometown nature.”

Since establishing a presence in Columbus a few years ago, Northwest has created a number of high-quality local jobs across a number of traditional banking functions, as well as in areas like IT, marketing, and human resources. Soon, Northwest will have added 125 jobs in the market.

“Northwest’s growth in Columbus will strengthen our region’s presence as a national hub for financial services, and their commitment to our community is a true example of how we can all

work to achieve our vision of becoming the most prosperous region in the United States,” said Kenny McDonald, President and CEO, the Columbus Partnership.

About Northwest Bank

Founded in 1896 and headquartered in Warren, Pennsylvania, Northwest Bank is a full-service financial institution offering a complete line of business and personal banking products, employee benefits and wealth management services. As of April 14, 2022, Northwest operates 142 full-service community banking offices and eight free standing drive-through facilities in Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and Indiana. Northwest Bancshares, Inc.’s common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market (“NWBI”). Additional information regarding Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and Northwest Bank can be accessed on-line at www.northwest.com.

About Northwest Bancshares, Inc.

Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Northwest Bancshares, Inc. is the bank holding company of Northwest Bank. Founded in 1896 and headquartered in Warren, Pennsylvania, Northwest Bank is a full-service financial institution offering a complete line of business and personal banking products, employee benefits and wealth management services. As of April 14, 2022, Northwest operates 142 full-service community banking offices and eight free standing drive-through facilities in Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and Indiana. Northwest Bancshares, Inc.’s common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market (“NWBI”). Additional information regarding Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and Northwest Bank can be accessed on-line at www.northwest.com.

About the National Veterans Memorial and Museum

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum takes visitors on a narrative journey telling individual stories and shared experiences of Veterans from all military branches throughout history. The Memorial and Museum also honors the sacrifices of men and women in service and their families. History is presented in a dynamic, participatory experience with photos, letters and personal effects, multimedia presentations, interactive exhibits, online events and digital content. Together, these elements link our national story to the larger context of our world. For more information, visit <https://nationalvmm.org/>

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