



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Merchants Bank Breaks Ground on New Shelburne Road Office!**

*SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT*—Michael R. Tuttle, President and CEO of Merchants Bank, announced today that construction of the Bank's new Shelburne Road branch is officially commencing. Groundbreaking took place on Friday, August 8, 2008 at 2pm. The existing branch office at the site will remain open while the new building is built by Connor Contracting. David G. White and Associates had responsibility for obtaining permits for the construction. The building will feature 2,121 square feet of service interior with three drive-up lanes, including one dedicated to ATM transactions. Upon completion of the facility, the old office will be razed, making room for green space at the site.

The grand opening is scheduled for January, 2009.

The original modular building was erected in 1974 with the intent of being replaced in the future with a larger structure. The new facility will accommodate bank customers and staff with upgraded technology in an environmentally efficient space. The completion of the landscaping in the spring will complete the transformation of the gateway to the South Burlington Plaza.



**The new Merchants Bank Shelburne Road branch, scheduled for opening in January 2009**

**-Continued-**



**From left to right:** Michael Tuttle, President & CEO; Steve Connor, Connor Contracting; Gary Dean, Facilities Manager; Heather Cruickshank, Market Manager – Burlington Metro Lakefront; Maryann Russell, Shelburne Road Branch President; Betty Bosma, former Shelburne Road Branch President; and Tom Leavitt, Executive Vice President (in the background Mike Connor, Connor Contracting)

Vermont Matters! The continuing mission of Merchants Bank is to provide Vermonters with a state-wide community bank that blends a strong technology platform with a genuine appreciation for local markets. Merchants Bank fulfills this commitment through a branch-based system that includes 36 community bank offices and 44 ATMs throughout Vermont, Personal Bankers dedicated to top-quality customer service and streamlined solutions, including: Personal Checking and Savings with Free Checking for Life<sup>®</sup>, CashRewards Checking<sup>SM</sup>, a low-cost Money Market Account, Free Online Banking and Bill Pay, Overdraft Coverage, Direct Deposit, Free Debit Card and Free Automated Phone Banking; Business Banking with Rewards Checking for Business, Business Online Banking and Bill Pay, Business Lines of Credit and Merchant Card Processing; Small Business Loans; Health Savings Accounts; Credit Cards; Flexible Certificates of Deposit; Vehicle Loans; Home Equity Credit; and Home Mortgages. **Visit [mbvt.com](http://mbvt.com) for more information.** Merchants' stock is traded on the NASDAQ National Market system under the symbol MBVT. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.

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