



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Merchants Bank Supports the United Way's Youth Projects, 211 System

SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT— Thomas S. Leavitt, Executive Vice President of Merchants Bank announced that the company has purchased all remaining inventory of Vermont's United Way 2007 fundraising calendars.

The proceeds will support United Way youth programs and the implementation of the 211 system. The 211 system is a process that is similar to calling 911, but 211 is exclusively for families in emergency crisis. In total, overall purchases by the community of the 2007 calendar generated \$8,900 for these programs.

“This is a heartwarming example of Merchants Bank teaming with community projects in order to make a difference. We support the United Way and all it does for Vermont,” said Leavitt.

Prielle Kane, Branch Manager for the South Burlington office, facilitated the transaction with James “Jim” T. Carter (pictured below).



James “Jim” T. Carter of the United Way and Prielle Kane of Merchants Bank

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[®], 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 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 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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