



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Merchants Bank's New Shelburne Road Branch Opens January 20!

SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT--Executive Vice President Thomas S. Leavitt is pleased to announce that the newest office of Merchants Bank will open on January 20. The branch at 929 Shelburne Road in South Burlington replaces the current branch that has operated at that location since 1974. The newly constructed facility offers full lobby service and three drive-up lanes, including one dedicated to an ATM.

The new interior space features teller stations, private office space, a conference room for onsite, private loan closings and customer meetings, and ADA-compliant accommodations. A green space will occupy the site of the previous bank building, with work scheduled for completion in the spring. The facility is adjacent to the K-Mart Plaza.

The public is invited to a Grand Opening Celebration, scheduled for Friday, February 27. Remarks by bank officials will be delivered at 11:30 a.m. Visitors will be able to enjoy refreshments and tour the new branch during all hours of operation that day.

Leavitt says this is the fourth new construction project that Connor Contracting (Berlin and St. Albans, VT) has built for the bank. "We have been very pleased with the quality of the work. The reception by the communities of White River Junction, St. Albans and Waterbury to our new facilities and programs has encouraged us to keep building," commented Leavitt.

"The new office will be a great environment for customers and staff," adds Maryann Russell, Shelburne Road Branch President. "Our team is very excited to reward our relationships and to make new acquaintances. We are proud to be part of Vermont's independent statewide bank."



Vermont Matters.[®] Merchants Bank strives to provide funding to support organizations with programs and services throughout Vermont that help meet basic needs; advance environmental initiatives, energy efficiency and awareness; and promote community enrichment through local sports related initiatives. 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 34 community bank offices and 42 ATMs throughout Vermont, Personal Bankers dedicated to top-quality customer service and streamlined solutions, including: Personal Banking with *Cash*Rewards Checkingsm, 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 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 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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