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June 13, 2007

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Bette A. Smith Appointed Branch President, Merchants Bank, N. Bennington Office

SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT—Thomas S. Leavitt, Executive Vice President of Merchants Bank announced the appointment of Bette A. Smith as Branch President for the North Bennington office of Merchants Bank. Smith succeeds Kathy Hamilton who is transferring to the Putnam Square, Bennington office. At North Bennington, Smith will lead a strong veteran team that includes Personal Bankers Mary Cannavan, Kelley Murphy and Robin Spiak.

Smith began her career with Catamount Bank in the Computer Department of the same North Bennington office she now occupies. (Catamount subsequently became part of Merchants Bank). She was employed by Rutland Savings Bank in the Bennington office before her employment began with Merchants Bank in 1984 as Proof Operator in the North Bennington office. A year later Smith became Head Teller and Customer Service Representative. She then moved into the Teller/Customer Representative position (Personal Banker). Smith earned her lending authority and was promoted two years ago to Personal Banker/Lender.

“Bette has actively participated in company training programs and is very familiar with her community and customer base, earning the respect of the market and staff. We are pleased to welcome her to the leadership position of Branch President,” commented Leavitt.

Smith is active in her church, and she plans to bring a strong community focus to her business development and lending work in her new position. Smith was raised and educated in Hoosick Falls, New York. She studied office administration at State University of New York at Cobleskill. Smith resides in Petersburg, NY with her husband Walter. They enjoy their children and grandchildren.

“I look forward to the opportunities of my new position and to continuing to serve the North Bennington market,” commented Smith.



Bette A. Smith

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. It fulfills this commitment through a branch-based system that includes 36 community bank offices and 43 ATMs throughout Vermont, Personal Bankers dedicated to top-quality customer service, and streamlined products: FreedomLYNX[®] Banking, which consists of 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; TimeLYNX[®] Flexible Certificates of Deposit; AutoLYNXSM Vehicle Loans; HomeLYNX[®] Home Equity Loans and Lines of Credit; RealLYNX[®] Residential Mortgages; CommerceLYNX[®] Business Banking; and Q-LYNX Quick Decision Business Loans. For more information about Merchants Bank, visit mbvt.com. Merchants' stock is traded on the NASDAQ National Market system under the symbol MBVT. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.