



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BELLOWS FALLS, VT - Thomas S. Leavitt, Senior Vice President, Retail Banking for Merchants Bank announced that Elizabeth Simpson, Teller Customer Representative, has been promoted to Lender Customer Representative. Simpson is employed at the Bellows Falls Branch.

In order to complete the requirements for this promotion, Simpson had to successfully complete the stringent courses of the CARR (Credit Authority Review and Rating) and PETT (Performance Evaluation Training and Tracking) programs. The CARR and PETT programs are sponsored by Merchants Bank and are designed to provide incentives for employees to acquire new skills and upgrade their position within the company.

Simpson began her career with the Merchants Bank in January 2003 and earned her lending authority in February 2005. She has originated all consumer and residential loan types and has shown strong credentials in customer service, sales and branch operations.

“She has been an instrumental part of the Bellows Falls team over the past two years,” commented Christine Williams, Branch President of the Merchants Bank Bellows Falls branch.

The continuing mission of Merchants Bank is to provide Vermonters with a true community bank. It fulfills this commitment through a branch-based system that includes 35 bank offices throughout Vermont, employees dedicated to quality customer service and the LYNX family of products: Free Checking for Life[®], MoneyLYNX[®] Money Market Account, TimeLYNX[®] Certificate of Deposit, HomeLYNX[®] Home equity Line of Credit, RealLYNX[®] Residential Mortgages, CommerceLYNX[®] business banking services, eLYNX[®] Online Banking and PhoneLYNXSM Phone Banking. For more information about Merchants Bank visit our website at www.mbv.com Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.