



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact**

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***SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT***—Thomas S. Leavitt, Senior Vice President, Retail Banking for Merchants Bank announced the appointment of Diane L. Sullivan to the position of Branch President of the North Avenue, Burlington branch. Diane will be succeeding Christine Auriemma who has assumed leadership of the White Street, South Burlington branch of Merchants Bank. Sullivan will join the team of Hilda Carrier, Holly Coates, Roxann LePage and Karen Weissenstein.

Diane joined Merchants Bank in May 1997 as a Teller/Customer Representative in the Essex branch and became a full-time Teller/Customer Representative at the College Street branch in November of that year, before moving to the South Burlington, White Street branch as a Customer Representative in May 1998. She gained lending authority and was promoted to Lender/Customer Representative in August 2002. Diane worked alongside Branch President Ardy Cochran, and served as acting Branch President on several occasions. In addition, she managed a high-volume branch on weekends, served as a mentor to new hires within the office and gained loyalty from her co-workers and customers.

“I look forward to providing excellent service to everyone in the North Avenue area,” commented Sullivan.

Sullivan grew up in South Burlington, graduating from Rice Memorial High School and working for Merchants Bank shortly after her graduation. She later served as Business Manager for a professional sports team in Indianapolis, and owned a real estate firm with her husband in California for ten years. Diane and her husband relocated permanently to Vermont, in order to be closer to their family. They now reside in Colchester, frequent the North End of Burlington, and are affiliated with a service club within walking distance of the North Avenue office.



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<sup>®</sup>, MoneyLYNX<sup>®</sup> Money Market Account, TimeLYNX<sup>®</sup> Certificate of Deposit, HomeLYNX<sup>®</sup> Home Equity Line of Credit, RealLYNX<sup>®</sup> Residential Mortgages, CommerceLYNX<sup>®</sup> Business Banking Services, eLYNX<sup>®</sup> Online Banking and PhoneLYNX<sup>SM</sup> Automated Phone Banking. For more information about Merchants Bank visit our website at [www.mbyt.com](http://www.mbyt.com). Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.