

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – October 2, 2007

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BANK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION DONATES \$57,000 TO FRANKLIN CAUSES**

Franklin, MA - The Benjamin Franklin Bank Charitable Foundation is pleased to announce 2007 donations totaling \$57,000 in support of Franklin charitable causes. In 2007 the Foundation contributed more than \$300,000 to local communities and has contributed over \$604,000 to charitable causes since it was established in 2005. The Benjamin Franklin Bank Charitable Foundation, endowed with a generous gift from Benjamin Franklin Bancorp, provides funding to support charitable causes and community development activities in the communities served by Benjamin Franklin Bank.

In Franklin the Foundation contributed \$20,000 to the Friends of Franklin Elders in support of the new Franklin Senior Center, \$10,000 to the Franklin Downtown Partnership Harvest Festival, \$10,000 in high school and Dean College scholarships, as well as generously supporting the Franklin Housing Authority, the United Way of Franklin, Concerts on the Common, and Franklin Youth sports teams.

According to Thomas R. Venables, Benjamin Franklin Bank Charitable Foundation President, “the Foundation looks forward to supporting deserving organizations and efforts in our communities. The Foundation is committed to participating as a good corporate citizen to improve the quality of life in our communities.”

In addition to traditional community contributions, the Charitable Foundation is chartered to focus support in four primary areas: education, health and human services, youth programs and community development in communities served by Benjamin Franklin Bank.

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