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BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BANK FORMS STRATEGIC ALLIANCE

Franklin, MA – Thomas R. Venables, President and CEO of Benjamin Franklin Bank, is pleased to announce the formation of a strategic alliance with the Cataldo Financial Group, effective May 15, 2007. “This is a fortunate collaboration for both organizations and we look forward to a successful partnership,” said Venables.

This newly formed alliance will expand Benjamin Franklin Bank’s Investment and Financial Services Department, and “will put us in a better position to assist clients with their personal financial goals,” added Venables. The Benjamin Franklin Bank has provided personal and business banking services since 1871.

Current Cataldo Financial Group clients can expect the same high-quality insurance products and financial services, now available at their new location in the Investment and Financial Services Department at the Benjamin Franklin Bank on Main Street in Franklin. A lifelong Benjamin Franklin Bank customer, Thomas M. Cataldo, President of the Cataldo Financial Group, is pleased to be aligning his business “with such a trusted name in the community.”

“We’re confident that this alliance will only enhance the quality and number of financial services available to our clients,” said Venables. The Benjamin Franklin Bank has a range of financial planning products available, including tax-free money market accounts, mutual funds, tax-advantaged investments, college funding, and retirement and estate planning. The Investment and Financial Services Department offers portfolio reviews and recommendations as well as free initial consultations to customers at all branches.

Since 1981, the Cataldo Financial Group has been providing professional investment advice along with a full menu of insurance products, including health, life, disability, long-term care, and annuities. “This alliance is perfect, as it allows our two businesses to better serve our mutual customers,” said Cataldo, adding, “Benjamin Franklin Bank has been my own bank, and that of my family, for many years, and this alliance really cements a relationship for life.”

Benjamin Franklin Bank serves the communities of Bellingham, Foxboro, Franklin, Medfield, Milford, Newton, Waltham, and Wellesley. As part of an ongoing expansion, Benjamin Franklin Bank will be opening a new branch in Watertown in the near future. For information about Benjamin Franklin Bank, please contact

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Thomas M. Cataldo, Owner of The Cataldo Financial Group, and Thomas R. Venables, President & CEO of Benjamin Franklin Bank.