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'It's like a mini city'

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## Pentucket Bank takes pride in community service

Workers from voters' top bank volunteer with service clubs

By Nicholas Golden Correspondent Aug 11, 2016



MARY SCHWALM/Staff photo Pentucket Bank officials gather at the grand opening of the bank branch on Lincoln Avenue, across from Trinity Stadium.

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Celebrating its 125th anniversary this year, Pentucket Bank has been around long enough to see Haverhill change in ways that are difficult to count.

But one thing that has remained consistent, according to Vice President of Marketing Leanne Petrou, is Pentucket Bank's pride in the community and public service.

"We're proud of the fact that we started here," Petrou said, adding that a core part of the bank's philosophy is to give back to Haverhill. We do our best to support the community.

"It's a nice little bonus to be named the best community bank — we take pride in that," she added, reacting to the bank being voted number one by Gazette readers.

The bank's success is driven by the kindness and talent provided by its 120 employees, Petrou said.

"They're all very friendly and very knowledgeable," she said of the bank staff.

The staff includes financial advisers, as well as the bank's mainline service providers who work with consumer and business products like mortgages, checking accounts and savings accounts.

Petrou, who started working at the bank in 2010, explained that many members of the bank's staff are members of community boards and clubs. Pentucket employees volunteer with service clubs in Haverhill such as the Exchange Club and Lions Club, and have committed about 5,500 hours of volunteer service to the city, she said.

As the city changes and the local economy develops, Pentucket Bank is joining in, specifically with the construction of Harbor Place right across Merrimack Street from the bank's main office. Much like the bank's train logo symbolizes what was once the centerpiece of economic change and opportunity, Pentucket Bank invested itself in Harbor Place's future from early on, Petrou said.

Pentucket Bank's staff will move into new office spaces in Harbor Place to be part of the downtown's future. They will join a UMass Lowell satellite campus and other business in the complex.

"We're really excited to be part of the Harbor Place project," Petrou said.

With continuing community work, including a recent \$5,000 donation to the YWCA in Haverhill and its future role at Harbor Place, Pentucket Bank's place in Haverhill appears secure.

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