

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
8/23/12
2 Pages

Vicky A. Kolodziej
Clerk of Corporation
The Pittsfield Cooperative Bank
(413) 629-1602
vkolodziej@pittsfieldcoop.com
www.pittsfieldcoop.com

Ed Schumann and Joan M. Stillman Join the Community's Oldest Bank

The Co-op Introduces a New Management Team in Great Barrington

August 23, 2012, *Pittsfield* – The Pittsfield Cooperative Bank has hired Ed Schumann – most recently the Manager at National Iron Bank's Cornwall Bridge, CT, offices – to serve as the Branch Manager of The Co-op's Great Barrington location. Joining Schumann as the Assistant Branch Manager is Great Barrington resident Joan M. Stillman. The new tandem replaces the recently retired duo of Anita Diller (Manager, 33 years of service) and Maureen Avery (Assistant Manager, 22 years with the Bank)

“Replacing Anita and Maureen was not an easy task,” stated J. Jay Anderson, President & CEO of The Co-op – a 123-year old financial institution. “Our customers in Great Barrington have not only become accustomed to a high level of service over the years, but they also developed a trust with these two women that will be tough to duplicate. That said, I feel quite certain that in Ed and Joan we have put a team in place that will quickly inspire confidence among both patrons and staff while displaying a commitment to the Bank – and to the community – that would make their predecessors proud,” added Anderson.

Schumann – a native of Queens, NY and a long-suffering N.Y. Mets' fan – attended Queens College and soon thereafter built an impressive resume in retail (managing stores for industry giants like Banana Republic, J. Crew and GAP, Inc.). He joined National Iron Bank in April of 2006 as the Assistant Branch Manager and was elevated to Manager within 20 months. During his tenure there, Schumann took advantage of course work and seminars offered by the Bank Administration Institute (BAI).

“Ed is a relationship builder. He will soon become a familiar face on Main Street and will be proactive in ascertaining how the Bank can help its neighbors fulfill their goals and dreams,” said Peter M. Marchetti, The Co-op's VP Branch Operations and Administration.

-more-

Schumann & Stillman Join The Co-op
Page 2 of 2
8/23/12

Vicky K. Kolodziej
Clerk of Corporation
The Pittsfield Cooperative Bank
(413) 629-1602

“Successful partnerships. That’s what banking is all about. The child who saves his/her allowance to buy a new bike. The couple seeking to purchase their first home. The small business looking to grow. They all desire a financial partner that they can trust,” said Schumann.

“The Co-op is one of the best capitalized lenders in the entire Commonwealth and their dedicated service to the Berkshires dates back to the nineteenth century. This puts me in a position to assist in the growth of our community. And that’s a wonderful opportunity,” noted the avid photographer and member of the Housatonic Art Association.

Stillman – a graduate of Berkshire Community College, a member of the Southern Berkshire County Chamber of Commerce and a volunteer with the Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity – returns to The Co-op after a nine-year absence. She previously served as a Customer Service Representative between 1995 and 2003. After moving from the area, Stillman worked in similar capacities for both the New York Central Mutual Fire Insurance Company (Edmeston, NY) and Wilbur National Bank (Oneonta, NY). She resurfaced in July of 2010 as the Manager of TrustCo Bank’s Great Barrington branch. Along the way, Stillman honed her craft by attending classes through the American Institute of Banking.

“Joan’s local roots and prior experience with The Co-op make her an invaluable addition to our staff. Her dedication to the region is well-documented and her recent stint with TrustCo Bank has allowed Joan to have a finger on the pulse of the local banking scene,” commented Marchetti.

“The Co-op operates as if those who live and work in the area are part of a very large family that they want to nurture,” said Stillman – the mother of two married daughters who 15 months ago welcomed grandson Zachary to the world.

“It’s a stark contrast to the big banks who have been exposed in recent years for their greed and largesse. The Co-op is poised to make a difference and I want to be part of that movement,” she concluded.

#

Note: The Pittsfield Cooperative Bank was established in 1889 and currently has four branches in the Berkshires. Those locations are: 70 South St. and 110 Dalton Ave., both in Pittsfield, 488 Main St. in Dalton and 325 Main St. in Great Barrington. Member FDIC. Member SIF. Equal Opportunity Lender. Equal Housing Lender.