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PFCU Donates \$10,000 to Flood-Ravaged Bloomsburg

Philadelphia, PA, August 7, 2006 – After extensive flooding besieged much of the Northeastern United States two weeks ago, President Bush included Pennsylvania’s Columbia County among those declared a disaster area due to flooding. Philadelphia Federal Credit Union, which has a branch in Bloomsburg, came to its aid by donating \$10,000 to the Bloomsburg Flood Recovery Fund.

A check for the fund was presented to Bloomsburg Mayor Claude Renninger by PFCU’s Bloomsburg Branch Manager Polly Siciliano on Monday, July 10 at the branch office. “I am so overwhelmed by this gift and proud to be a part of this Credit Union,” Siciliano said. “It really is a City of Brotherly Love that reaches out to its family in Bloomsburg.”

According to the Associated Press, flood waters crested at 28 1/2 feet early Thursday, June 29, the second-highest level in the Bloomsburg area since 1936. It marks the highest total in the area since the aftermath of Hurricane Agnes in 1972, when it crested at 31.2 feet.

“It’s day by day right now,” Siciliano said. “There’s heartache ahead, but this is a very strong community. Everybody’s pulling together and helping one another and the energy is high.”

“We were devastated to hear about all of this,” said PFCU President/CEO James McAneney. “There’s been millions of dollars in flood damage and we just want to help however we can. We’ve been a part of the Bloomsburg Community for almost twenty years now.”

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection continues its Boil Water Advisory in certain sections of Columbia County. It orders residents either to not drink water without boiling it first for at least one minute, or to use commercially bottled water.

“Even the people not dealing with too much financial loss went without water for five to six days,” Siciliano said. “We were overjoyed when the water was restored, but still have a long way to go.”

According to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Insurance Department, a standard homeowner’s or renter’s policy does not cover damages resulting from a flood, leaving many Bloomsburg residents in a difficult situation.

“The most useful form of assistance is a donation of cash or a check to your favorite disaster charity,” Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) Director David M. Sanko reported. “Monetary donations allow charitable organizations the flexibility to purchase items that are needed most, support the economy in the affected communities, and, unlike material donations, cash donations only involve a postage stamp.”

Serving the community since 1987, PFCU is located at 2251 Columbia Boulevard and has nine employees that serve over 5,000 members.

Philadelphia Federal Credit Union was founded in 1951 and is currently among the top credit unions in the city, serving the entire Philadelphia and Bloomsburg, PA communities, in addition to the owners, employees and directors of over 600 organizations throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

PHOTO: (L to R) PFCU Bloomsburg Branch Manager Polly Siciliano, Bloomsburg Mayor Claude Renninger