



**NEWS ITEM  
ATTENTION: COMMUNITY NEWS EDITORS**

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**CANAJOHARIE STUDENTS DONATE TO NBT BANCORP FUND-RAISING  
EFFORT FOR HAITI EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS**

NORWICH, N.Y. (FEBRUARY 4, 2010) – Between January 15 and January 27, Norwich-based NBT Bancorp held a companywide fund-raising campaign to encourage its more than 1,500 employees in New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont to donate money to aid victims of the January 12 earthquake in Haiti. The company offered to match employee donations up to a total of \$10,000. On February 2 in Norwich, the company presented a check for \$23,626.83 to the Haiti Relief Effort coordinated by the American Red Cross.

NBT Bancorp employees contributed \$13,522.83. Michele Nare’s class of fourth-graders at Canajoharie Elementary School, which was aware of NBT Bancorp’s fund-raising campaign, also donated \$52 to the effort. NBT Bancorp matched the fourth-graders’ donation, for a total match of \$10,052. James Caruso, vice president and regional manager of NBT Bank’s branches in Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie counties, said: “We are very pleased with the generosity of our employees and the Canajoharie students. These funds will provide a measure of relief to the Haitian people in the wake of this devastating earthquake.”

NBT Bancorp Inc. is a financial holding company headquartered in Norwich, N.Y. The company had assets of \$5.5 billion as of December 31, 2009. The company primarily operates through two full-service community bank divisions and two financial services companies. NBT Bank, based in Norwich, N.Y., has 84 offices in upstate New York and one office in Burlington, Vt. Pennstar Bank, based in Scranton, Pa., has 38 offices in northeastern Pennsylvania. EPIC Advisors, Inc., based in Rochester, N.Y., is a full-service 401(k) plan recordkeeping firm. Mang Insurance Agency, LLC, based in Norwich, N.Y., is a full-service insurance agency.

<b>PHOTO INFO:</b>	In late January, the fourth-grade class of Michele Nare at Canajoharie Elementary School deposited \$52 in coins they had been saving since the beginning of the school year. They deposited the money at NBT Bank of Palatine Bridge. The money was added to and matched by NBT Bank’s parent company, NBT Bancorp, whose employees donated to a companywide campaign to raise money for the American Red Cross’ Haiti Relief Effort. The students became aware of NBT Bancorp’s campaign through Doris Leverett, who teaches with Mrs. Nare and whose husband, David Leverett, works for NBT Bank. Shown in this photo are: Mrs. Nare (back row, right), her students, NBT Banker James Caruso (back row, left), NBT Banker Deborah Curriere (back row, second from right) and NBT Banker Beth Luck (front row, left), who is branch manager of the bank’s Palatine Bridge Office.
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