

FIRST NORTHERN COMMUNITY BANCORP
Form 10-Q
November 08, 2007

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR
15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the Quarterly Period Ended September 30, 2007

OR

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13
OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
1934**

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 000-30707

First Northern Community Bancorp
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or
organization)

68-0450397
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

195 N. First Street, Dixon, California
(Address of principal executive offices)

95620
(Zip Code)

707-678-3041
(Registrant's telephone number including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

Edgar Filing: FIRST NORTHERN COMMUNITY BANCORP - Form 10-Q

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of “accelerated filer” and “large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer **Accelerated filer** **Non-accelerated filer**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes **No**

The number of shares of Common Stock outstanding as of November 1, 2007 was 8,254,194.

FIRST NORTHERN COMMUNITY BANCORP

INDEX

	Page
PART I: FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Item 1	Consolidated Financial Statements
	Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets 3
	Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income 4
	Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income 5
	Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows 6
	Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements 7
Item 2	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations 17
Item 3	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk 32
Item 4	Controls and Procedures 32
PART II: OTHER INFORMATION	
Item 1A	Risk Factors 33
Item 2	Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds 33
Item 6	Exhibits 34
Signatures	34

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION**ITEM 1.****CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(in thousands, except share amounts)

	(UNAUDITED)	
	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
ASSETS		
Cash and due from banks	\$ 52,007	\$ 35,531
Federal funds sold	4,815	62,470
Investment securities – available-for-sale	89,377	74,180
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses of \$9,153 at September 30, 2007 and \$8,361 at December 31, 2006	508,742	475,549
Loans held-for-sale	1,618	4,460
Stock in Federal Home Loan Bank and other equity securities, at cost	2,172	2,093
Premises and equipment, net	7,929	8,060
Other Real Estate Owned	252	375
Accrued interest receivable and other assets	23,421	22,507
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 690,333	\$ 685,225
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Deposits		
Demand deposits	\$ 192,949	\$ 197,498
Interest-bearing transaction deposits	130,745	117,620
Savings and MMDA's	169,405	175,128
Time, under \$100,000	44,591	47,137
Time, \$100,000 and over	70,130	66,299
Total deposits	607,820	603,682
FHLB Advances and other borrowings	10,678	10,981
Accrued interest payable and other liabilities	7,773	8,572
TOTAL LIABILITIES	626,271	623,235
Stockholders' equity		
Common stock, no par value; 16,000,000 shares authorized; 8,250,828 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2007 and 7,980,952 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2006	52,644	45,726
Additional paid in capital	977	977
Retained earnings	11,022	15,792
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(581)	(505)
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	64,062	61,990
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$ 690,333	\$ 685,225

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

3

UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three months ended September 30, 2007	Three months ended September 30, 2006	Nine months ended September 30, 2007	Nine months ended September 30, 2006
Interest and Dividend Income				
Loans	\$ 10,681	\$ 11,070	\$ 31,435	\$ 31,189
Federal funds sold	384	506	2,236	2,117
Due from interest bearing Investment securities	116	—	116	—
Taxable	779	644	2,113	1,814
Non-taxable	335	162	915	436
Other earning assets	26	26	86	79
Total interest and dividend income	12,321	12,408	36,901	35,635
Interest Expense				
Deposits	2,930	2,483	8,920	6,326
Other borrowings	81	68	247	284
Total interest expense	3,011	2,551	9,167	6,610
Net interest income	9,310	9,857	27,734	29,025
Provision for loan losses	990	810	1,250	585
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	8,320	9,047	26,484	28,440
Other operating income				
Service charges on deposit accounts	903	749	2,512	2,050
Gains on sales of other real estate owned	174	—	353	6
Gains on sales of loans held-for-sale	6	100	190	192
Investment and brokerage services income	37	61	141	173
Mortgage brokerage income	13	101	90	310
Loan servicing income	66	49	232	193
Fiduciary activities income	65	39	210	114
ATM fees	77	70	216	203
Signature based transaction fees	134	102	377	272
Gains on available for sale securities	146	—	146	—
Other income	179	175	539	505
Total other operating income	1,800	1,446	5,006	4,018
Other operating expenses				
Salaries and employee benefits	4,373	4,347	13,183	13,237
Occupancy and equipment	834	983	2,731	2,723
Data processing	424	368	1,217	1,082
Stationery and supplies	119	135	406	375
Advertising	212	162	641	611

Edgar Filing: FIRST NORTHERN COMMUNITY BANCORP - Form 10-Q

Directors' fees	49	42	149	108
Other real estate owned expense	9	—	27	—
Other expense	1,170	1,213	3,909	3,582
Total other operating expenses	7,190	7,250	22,263	21,718
Income before income tax expense	2,930	3,243	9,227	10,740
Provision for income taxes	911	1,195	3,133	3,996
Net income	\$ 2,019	\$ 2,048	\$ 6,094	\$ 6,744
Basic Income per share	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.80
Diluted Income per share	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.71	\$ 0.77

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

**UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**
(in thousands, except share amounts)

	Common Stock Shares	Common Stock Amounts	Comprehensive Income	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total
Balance at December 31, 2006	7,980,952	\$ 45,726		\$ 977	\$ 15,792	\$ (505)	\$ 61,990
Comprehensive income:							
Net income			\$ 6,094		6,094		6,094
Other comprehensive loss:							
Unrealized holding losses on securities arising during the current period, net of tax effect of \$109			(164)				
Reclassification adjustment due to gains realized on sales of securities, net of tax effect of \$58			88				
Total other comprehensive loss, net of tax effect of \$51			(76)			(76)	(76)
Comprehensive income			\$ 6,018				
6% stock dividend	476,532	10,851			(10,851)		—
Cash in lieu of fractional shares					(13)		(13)
Stock-based compensation and related tax benefits		508					508

Stock options exercised, net of swapped shares	34,136	101				101
Stock repurchase and retirement	(240,792)	(4,542)				(4,542)
Balance at September 30, 2007	8,250,828	\$ 52,644	\$ 977	\$ 11,022	\$ (581)	\$ 64,062

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

In the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, a SFAS 158 transition adjustment in the amount of \$(512), net of tax, was recognized as a component of the ending balance of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income / (Loss).

This adjustment was misapplied as a component of Comprehensive Income.

The table below reflects the effects of the misapplication of this adjustment at December 31, 2006.

	As Reported	Misapplied	As Revised
Other Comprehensive Loss, Net of Tax	\$ (624)	\$ (512)	\$ (112)
Comprehensive income	\$ 8,186	\$ (512)	\$ 8,698

The Company will correct the Other Comprehensive Loss and Comprehensive Income presentations in the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2007.

UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	(in thousands)	
	Nine months ended September 30, 2007	Nine months ended September 30, 2006
Operating Activities		
Net Income	\$ 6,094	\$ 6,744
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	853	780
Provision for loan losses	1,250	585
Stock plan accruals	426	292
Tax benefit for stock options	82	307
Gains on available for sale securities	(146)	—
Gains on sales of other real estate owned	(353)	(6)
Gains on sales of loans held-for-sale	(190)	(192)
Proceeds from sales of loans held-for-sale	33,447	28,897
Originations of loans held-for-sale	(30,415)	(28,894)
Increase in accrued interest receivable and other assets	(959)	(1,956)
Decrease in accrued interest payable and other liabilities	(799)	(171)
Net cash provided by operating activities	9,290	6,386
Investing Activities		
Net increase in investment securities	(15,000)	(21,532)
Net increase in loans	(34,443)	(30,299)
Net (increase) decrease in other interest earning assets	(79)	16
Net decrease in other real estate owned	476	274
Purchases of premises and equipment, net	(722)	(562)
Net cash used in investing activities	(49,768)	(52,103)
Financing Activities		
Net increase (decrease) in deposits	4,138	(4,362)
Net decrease in FHLB advances and other borrowings	(303)	(4,091)
Cash dividends paid	(13)	(15)
Stock options exercised	101	138
Tax benefit for stock options	(82)	(307)
Repurchase of stock	(4,542)	(3,437)
Net cash used in financing activities	(701)	(12,074)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(41,179)	(57,791)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	98,001	122,692
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 56,822	\$ 64,901
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:		
Cash paid during the period for:		
Interest	\$ 9,188	\$ 6,524
Income Taxes	\$ 3,322	\$ 4,615

Supplemental disclosures of non-cash investing and financing activities:			
Transfer of loans held-for-sale to loans held-for-investment	\$	2,892	—
Stock dividend distributed	\$	10,851	\$ 12,525

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2007 and 2006 and December 31, 2006

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements of First Northern Community Bancorp (the “Company”) have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Articles 9 and 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. The results of operations for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of results expected for the full year. These condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in the Company’s Annual Report to stockholders and Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP also requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expense during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. All material intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements:

In February 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 155, “Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments,” which amends the guidance in SFAS No. 133, “Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities,” and SFAS No. 140, “Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities.” SFAS No. 155 provides entities with relief from having to separately determine the fair value of an embedded derivative that would otherwise be required to be bifurcated from its host contract in accordance with SFAS No. 133. SFAS No. 155 allows an entity to make an irrevocable election to measure such a hybrid financial instrument at fair value in its entirety, with changes in fair value recognized in earnings. SFAS No. 155 was effective January 1, 2007 for the Company for financial instruments acquired, issued or subject to a re-measurement event. The adoption of SFAS No. 155 did not have a material impact on the Company’s financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

In March 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 156, “Accounting for Servicing of Financial Assets,” which amends the guidance in SFAS No. 140. SFAS No. 156 requires that an entity separately recognize a servicing asset or a servicing liability when it undertakes an obligation to service a financial asset under a servicing contract in certain situations. Such servicing assets or servicing liabilities are required to be measured initially at fair value, if practicable. SFAS No. 156 also allows an entity to measure its servicing assets and servicing liabilities subsequently using either the amortization method, which existed under SFAS No. 140, or the fair value measurement method. SFAS No. 156 was effective for the Company in the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2007. The adoption of SFAS No. 156 did not have a material impact on the financial condition, results of operations or cash flows of the Company.

In June 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation 48, “Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes” (“FIN 48”), an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109, “Accounting for Income Taxes.” FIN 48 clarifies the accounting and reporting for income taxes where interpretation of the law is uncertain. FIN 48 prescribes a comprehensive model for the financial statement recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of income tax uncertainties with respect to positions taken or expected to be taken in income tax returns. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The Company adopted this Statement on January 1, 2007. The implementation of Interpretation 48 did not require the Company to recognize any increase in the liability for unrecognized tax benefits.

The Company and its subsidiaries file income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and California state jurisdictions. With few exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal and state examinations by tax authorities for years before 2003.

The Company will recognize interest and penalties accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense.

In September 2006, The Emerging Issues Task Force issued EITF 06-5, "Accounting for Purchases of Life Insurance- Determining the Amount That Could Be Realized in Accordance with FASB Technical Bulletin No. 85-4." This consensus concludes that a policyholder should consider any additional amounts included in the contractual terms of the insurance policy other than the cash surrender value in determining the amount that could be realized under the insurance contract. A consensus also was reached that a policyholder should determine the amount that could be realized under the life insurance contract assuming the surrender of an individual-life by individual-life policy (or certificate by certificate in a group policy). The consensuses are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The adoption of EITF 06-5 did not have a material impact on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period balances in order to conform to the current year presentation.

2. ALLOWANCE FOR LOAN LOSSES

The allowance for loan losses is maintained at levels considered adequate by management to provide for loan losses that can be reasonably anticipated. The allowance is based on management's assessment of various factors affecting the loan portfolio, including problem loans, economic conditions and loan loss experience, and an overall evaluation of the quality of the underlying collateral.

Changes in the allowance for loan losses during the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 and for the year ended December 31, 2006 were as follows:

(in thousands)

	Nine months ended September 30,		Year ended December 31,
	2007	2006	2006
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 8,361	\$ 7,917	\$ 7,917
Provision for loan losses	1,250	585	735
Loan charge-offs	(970)	(717)	(1,060)
Loan recoveries	512	615	769
Balance, end of period	\$ 9,153	\$ 8,400	\$ 8,361

3.

MORTGAGE OPERATIONS

Transfers and servicing of financial assets and extinguishments of liabilities are accounted for and reported based on consistent application of a financial-components approach that focuses on control. Transfers of financial assets that are sales are distinguished from transfers that are secured borrowings. Retained interests (mortgage servicing rights) in loans sold are measured by allocating the previous carrying amount of the transferred assets between the loans sold and retained interest, if any, based on their relative fair value at the date of transfer. Fair values are estimated using discounted cash flows based on a current market interest rate.

The Company recognizes a gain and a related asset for the fair value of the rights to service loans for others when loans are sold. The Company sold substantially all of its conforming long-term residential mortgage loans originated during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 for cash proceeds equal to the fair value of the loans.

The recorded value of mortgage servicing rights is included in other assets, and is amortized in proportion to, and over the period of, estimated net servicing revenues. The Company assesses capitalized mortgage servicing rights for impairment based upon the fair value of those rights at each reporting date. For purposes of measuring impairment, the rights are stratified based upon the product type, term and interest rates. Fair value is determined by discounting estimated net future cash flows from mortgage servicing activities using discount rates that approximate current market rates and estimated prepayment rates, among other assumptions. The amount of impairment recognized, if any, is the amount by which the capitalized mortgage servicing rights for a stratum exceeds their fair value. Impairment, if any, is recognized through a valuation allowance for each individual stratum.

At September 30, 2007, the Company had \$1,618,000 of mortgage loans held-for-sale. At September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, the Company serviced real estate mortgage loans for others of \$115,166,000 and \$112,742,000, respectively.

In September 2007, the Bank transferred \$2,892,000 in loans that it was originally intending to sell from its loans held-for-sale portfolio to its loans held-for-investment portfolio after it could find no buyers for these loans in the secondary markets.

The following table summarizes the Company's mortgage servicing rights assets as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006.

	(in thousands)			
	December 31, 2006	Additions	Reductions	September 30, 2007
Mortgage servicing rights	\$ 945	\$ 129	\$ 112	\$ 962

There was no valuation allowance recorded for mortgage servicing rights as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006.

10

4. OUTSTANDING SHARES AND EARNINGS PER SHARE

On January 25, 2007, the Board of Directors of the Company declared a 6% stock dividend paid March 30, 2007 to stockholders of record as of February 28, 2007.

Earnings per share amounts have been adjusted retroactively to reflect the effects of the stock dividend.

Earnings Per Share (EPS)

Basic EPS includes no dilution and is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted EPS includes all common stock equivalents (“in-the-money” stock options, unvested restricted stock, stock units, warrants and rights, convertible bonds and preferred stock), which reflects the potential dilution of securities that could share in the earnings of an entity.

The following table presents a reconciliation of basic and diluted EPS for the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006.

	(in thousands, except share and earnings per share amounts)			
	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	September 30, 2007	2006	September 30, 2007	2006
Basic earnings per share:				
Net income	\$ 2,019	\$ 2,048	\$ 6,094	\$ 6,744
Weighted average common shares outstanding	8,306,870	8,454,806	8,374,380	8,475,454
Basic EPS	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.80
Diluted earnings per share:				
Net income	\$ 2,019	\$ 2,048	\$ 6,094	\$ 6,744
Weighted average common shares outstanding	8,306,870	8,454,806	8,374,380	8,475,454
Effect of dilutive options	207,206	278,327	245,452	305,732
Adjusted weighted average common shares outstanding	8,514,076	8,733,133	8,619,832	8,781,186
Diluted EPS	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.71	\$ 0.77

5. STOCK PLANS

The following table presents the activity related to stock options and restricted stock for the three months ended September 30, 2007.

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Aggregate Intrinsic Value	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term
Options outstanding at Beginning of Period	555,063	\$ 11.14		
Granted	—	—		
Cancelled / Forfeited	—	—		
Exercised	(3,339)	\$ 4.03	\$ 47,153	
Options outstanding at End of Period	551,724	\$ 11.18	\$ 4,499,070	5.61
Exercisable (vested) at End of Period	391,488	\$ 8.81	\$ 3,897,935	4.61

The following table presents the activity related to stock options and restricted stock for the nine months ended September 30, 2007.

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Aggregate Intrinsic Value	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term
Options outstanding at Beginning of Period	549,000	\$ 10.32		
Granted	49,924	16.75		
Cancelled / Forfeited	—	—		
Exercised	(47,200)	\$ 7.05	\$ 565,558	
Options outstanding at End of Period	551,724	\$ 11.18	\$ 4,499,070	5.61
Exercisable (vested) at End of Period	391,488	\$ 8.81	\$ 3,897,935	4.61

The weighted average fair value of options and restricted stock granted during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 was \$9.58 per share.

As of September 30, 2007, there was \$637,209 of total unrecognized compensation related to non-vested stock options and restricted stock. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of approximately 1.8 years.

There was \$326,590 of recognized compensation related to non-vested stock options and restricted stock for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007.

A summary of the weighted average assumptions used in valuing stock options during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 is presented below:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2007*	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007
Risk Free Interest Rate	—	4.67%
Expected Dividend Yield	—	0.0%
Expected Life in Years	—	4.18
Expected Price Volatility	—	26.03%

* There were no stock options or restricted stock granted during the three-month period ended September 30, 2007.

The Company has a 2000 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (“ESPP”). Under the plan, the Company is authorized to issue to eligible employees shares of common stock. There are 265,000 (adjusted for the 2007 stock dividend) shares authorized under the Plan. The Plan will terminate February 27, 2017. The Plan is implemented by participation periods of not more than twenty-seven months each. The Board of Directors determines the commencement date and duration of each participation period. The Board of Directors approved the current participation period of November 24, 2006 to November 23, 2007. An eligible employee is one who has been continually employed for at least ninety (90) days prior to commencement of a participation period. Under the terms of the Plan, employees can choose to have up to 10 percent of their compensation withheld to purchase the Company’s common stock each participation period. The purchase price of the stock is 85 percent of the lower of the fair market value on the last trading day before the Date of Participation or the fair market value on the last trading day during the participation period.

As of September 30, 2007, there was \$28,461 of unrecognized compensation related to ESPP grants. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of approximately 0.25 years.

There was \$99,167 of recognized compensation related to ESPP grants for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007.

The weighted average fair value at grant date is \$6.08.

A summary of the weighted average assumptions used in valuing ESPP grants during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 is presented below:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2007	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007
Risk Free Interest Rate	5.00%	5.00%
Expected Dividend Yield	0.00%	0.00%
Expected Life in Years	1.00	1.00
Expected Price Volatility	22.97%	22.97%

6. FIRST NORTHERN BANK – EXECUTIVE SALARY CONTINUATION PLAN

First Northern Bank has an unfunded noncontributory defined benefit pension plan provided in two forms to a select group of highly compensated employees.

Four executives have Salary Continuation Plans providing retirement benefits between \$50,000 and \$100,000 depending on responsibilities and tenure at the Bank. The retirement benefits are paid for 10 years following retirement at age 65. Reduced retirement benefits are available after age 55 and 10 years of service.

The Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan is intended to provide a fixed annual benefit for 10 years plus 6 months for each full year of service over 10 years (limited to 180 months total) subsequent to retirement at age 65. Reduced benefits are payable as early as age 55 if the participant has at least 10 years of service. Two employees currently have Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan agreements. The agreements provide a target benefit of 2% (2.5% for the CEO) times years of service times final average compensation. Final average compensation is defined as three-year average salary plus seven-year average bonus. The target benefit is reduced by benefits from social security and First Northern Bank's profit sharing plan. The maximum target benefit is 50% of final average compensation.

	Three months ended September 30,	
	2007	2006
Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost		
Service Cost	\$ 30,383	\$ 41,146
Interest Cost	28,784	16,155
Amortization of prior service cost	21,821	3,257
Net periodic benefit cost	\$ 80,988	\$ 60,558

The Bank estimates that the annual net periodic benefit cost will be \$323,745 for the year ended December 31, 2007. This compares to annual net periodic benefit costs of \$260,592 for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Estimated Contributions for Fiscal 2007

For unfunded plans, contributions to the Executive Salary Continuation Plan are the benefit payments made to participants. At December 31, 2006 the Bank expected to make benefit payments of \$54,144 in connection with the Executive Salary Continuation Plan during fiscal 2007.

7. FIRST NORTHERN BANK – DIRECTORS’ RETIREMENT PLAN

First Northern Bank has an unfunded noncontributory defined benefit pension plan ("Directors' Retirement Plan") for directors of the bank. The plan provides a retirement benefit equal to \$1,000 per year of service as a director up to a maximum benefit of \$15,000. The retirement benefit is payable for 10 years following retirement at age 65. Reduced retirement benefits are available after age 55 and 10 years of service.

Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost	Three months ended	
	September 30,	
	2007	2006
Service Cost	\$ 14,366	\$ 13,518
Interest Cost	6,736	5,943
Amortization of net loss	121	234
Net periodic benefit cost	\$ 21,223	\$ 19,695

The Bank estimates that the annual net periodic benefit cost will be \$84,890 for the year ended December 31, 2007. This compares to annual net periodic benefit costs of \$78,774 for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Estimated Contributions for Fiscal 2007

For unfunded plans, contributions to the Directors' Retirement Plan are the benefit payments made to participants. At December 31, 2006 the Bank expected to make cash contributions of \$15,000 to the Directors' Retirement Plan during fiscal 2007.

ITEM 2.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and subject to the "safe harbor" created by those sections. Forward-looking statements include the information concerning possible or assumed future results of operations of the Company set forth under the heading "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and elsewhere in the Report." Forward-looking statements also include statements in which words such as "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "plan," "believe," "estimate," "consider" or similar expressions are used, and include assumptions concerning the Company's operations, future results and prospects. These forward-looking statements are based upon current expectations and are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions, which are difficult to predict. Therefore, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from those set forth in or implied by the forward-looking statements and related assumptions. Some factors that may cause actual results to differ from the forward-looking statements include the following: (i) the effect of changing regional and national economic conditions, including the continuing fiscal challenges for the State of California; (ii) uncertainty regarding the economic outlook resulting from the continuing hostilities in Iraq and the war on terrorism, as well as actions taken or to be taken by the United States or other governments as a result of further acts or threats of terrorism; (iii) significant changes in interest rates and prepayment speeds; (iv) credit risks of commercial, agricultural, real estate, consumer and other lending activities; (v) adverse effects of current and future federal and state banking or other laws and regulations or governmental fiscal or monetary policies; (vi) competition in the banking industry; (vii) changes in demand for loan products and other bank products; (viii) changes in accounting standards; and (ix) other external developments which could materially impact the Company's operational and financial performance. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. The Company undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances arising after the date on which they are made. For additional information concerning risks and uncertainties related to the Company and its operations, please refer to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 and Item 1A. of Part II of this Report.

The following is a discussion and analysis of the significant changes in the Company's Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets and of the significant changes in income and expenses reported in the Company's Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income and Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income as of and for the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 and should be read in conjunction with the Company's consolidated 2006 financial statements and the notes thereto contained in the Company's Annual Report to Stockholders and Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, along with other financial information included in this Report.

INTRODUCTION

This overview of Management's Discussion and Analysis highlights selected information in this Report and may not contain all of the information that is important to you. For a more complete understanding of trends, events, commitments, uncertainties, liquidity, capital resources and critical accounting estimates, you should carefully read this entire Report, together with our Consolidated Financial Statements and the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Our subsidiary, First Northern Bank of Dixon (the "Bank"), is a California state-chartered bank that derives most of its revenues from lending and deposit taking in the Sacramento Valley region of Northern California. Interest rates, business conditions and customer confidence all affect our ability to generate revenues. In addition, the regulatory environment and competition can challenge our ability to generate those revenues.

Significant results and developments during the third quarter and year-to-date 2007 include:

Year-to-date net income of \$6.09 million, down 9.6% from the \$6.74 million earned in the same fiscal period last year.

Diluted earnings per share for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 of \$0.71, down 8.0% from the \$0.77 reported in the same period last year (all 2006 per share earnings have been adjusted for a 6% stock dividend paid March 30, 2007).

Net interest income, a primary measure of bank profitability, decreased in the nine months ended September 30, 2007 by \$1.3 million, or 4.5%, to \$27.7 million from \$29.0 million in the same nine months of 2006. Although the Company was able to grow its interest earning assets and thereby increase its interest income by \$1.3 million, or 3.6% in the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007, that increase was more than offset by an increase in interest expense of \$2.6 million, or 38.7% in the nine months ended September 30, 2007. The increase in interest expense was primarily attributable to increases in volume of interest-bearing deposits and increases in interest paid on deposits in response to intense local competition for deposits and increases in market rates.

Provision for loan losses of \$1,250,000 for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 compared to a provision for loan losses from of \$585,000 for the same period in 2006.

Provision for unfunded lending commitment losses of \$110,000 for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 compared to a recovery of provision for unfunded lending commitment losses from a prior period of \$61,000 for the same period in 2006.

Annualized Return on Average Assets for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 of 1.18%, compared to 1.36% for the same period in 2006.

Annualized Return on Beginning Equity for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 of 13.11%, compared to 15.83% for the same period in 2006.

Total assets at September 30, 2007 of \$690.3 million, an increase of \$34.5 million, or 5.3% from prior-year third quarter levels.

Total net loans at September 30, 2007 (including loans held-for-sale) increased \$20.0 million, or 4.1%, to \$510.4 million compared to September 30, 2006.

Edgar Filing: FIRST NORTHERN COMMUNITY BANCORP - Form 10-Q

Total investment securities at September 30, 2007 increased \$18.9 million, or 26.9%, to \$89.4 million compared to September 30, 2006.

Total deposits of \$607.8 million at September 30, 2007, an increase of \$30.4 million or 5.3% compared to September 30, 2006.

Net income for the quarter of \$2.02 million, down 1.4% from the \$2.05 million earned in the third quarter of 2006.

Diluted earnings per share for the quarter of \$0.24 compared to \$0.23 per diluted share earned a year ago.

SUMMARY

The Company recorded net income of \$2,019,000 for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007, representing a decrease of \$29,000 or 1.4% from net income of \$2,048,000 for the same period in 2006.

The Company recorded net income of \$6,094,000 for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007, representing a decrease of \$650,000 or 9.6% from net income of \$6,744,000 for the same period in 2006.

The following table presents a summary of the results for the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006.

(in thousands, except earnings per share and percentage amounts)

	Three months ended September 30, 2007	Three months ended September 30, 2006	Nine months ended September 30, 2007	Nine months ended September 30, 2006
--	---------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------

For the Period:

Net Income	\$ 2,019	\$ 2,048	\$ 6,094	\$ 6,744
Basic Earnings Per Share*	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.80
Diluted Earnings Per share*	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.71	\$ 0.77
Return on Average Assets	1.16%	1.25%	1.18%	1.36%
Net Income / Beginning Equity	13.03%	14.42%	13.11%	15.83%

At Period End:

Total Assets	\$ 690,333	\$ 655,817	\$ 690,333	\$ 655,817
Total Loans, Net (including loans held-for-sale)	\$ 510,360	\$ 490,404	\$ 510,360	\$ 490,404
Total Investment Securities	\$ 89,377	\$ 70,461	\$ 89,377	\$ 70,461
Total Deposits	\$ 607,820	\$ 577,419	\$ 607,820	\$ 577,419
Loan-To-Deposit Ratio	84.0%	84.9%	84.0%	84.9%%

*Adjusted for stock dividends

Distribution of Average Statements of Condition and Analysis of Net Interest Income
(in thousands, except percentage amounts)

	Three months ended September 30, 2007			Three months ended September 30, 2006		
	Average Balance	Interest	Yield/ Rate	Average Balance	Interest	Yield/ Rate
Assets						
Interest-earning assets:						
Loans (1)	\$ 501,560	\$ 10,681	8.45%	\$ 489,094	\$ 11,070	8.98%
Federal funds sold	29,187	384	5.22%	37,982	506	5.29%
Interest bearing due from banks	7,532	116	6.11%	—	—	—
Investment securities, taxable	61,819	779	5.00%	53,816	644	4.75%
Investment securities, non-taxable (2)	31,061	335	4.28%	14,098	162	4.56%
Other interest earning assets	2,159	26	4.78%	2,054	26	5.02%
Total interest-earning assets	633,318	12,321	7.72%	597,044	12,408	8.25%
Non-interest-earning assets:						
Cash and due from banks	28,348			29,401		
Premises and equipment, net	8,068			8,147		
Other real estate owned	56			—		
Accrued interest receivable and other assets	22,540			21,217		
Total average assets	693,330			655,809		
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity:						
Interest-bearing liabilities:						
Interest-bearing transaction						
deposits	135,061	772	2.27%	96,590	473	1.94%
Savings and MMDA's	174,348	1,003	2.28%	187,583	1,046	2.21%
Time, under \$100,000	45,394	384	3.36%	49,301	356	2.86%
Time, \$100,000 and over	70,468	772	4.35%	66,196	608	3.64%
FHLB advances and other borrowings	10,626	80	2.99%	10,601	68	2.54%
Total interest-bearing liabilities	435,897	3,011	2.74%	410,271	2,551	2.47%
Non-interest-bearing liabilities:						
Non-interest-bearing demand deposits	186,703			179,716		
Accrued interest payable and other liabilities	7,591			6,226		
Total liabilities	630,191			596,213		
Total stockholders' equity	63,139			59,596		
Total average liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 693,330			\$ 655,809		
Net interest income and net interest margin (3)		\$ 9,310	5.83%		\$ 9,857	6.55%

1. Average balances for loans include loans held-for-sale and non-accrual loans and are net of the allowance for loan losses, but non-accrued interest thereon is

excluded. Loan interest income includes loan fees of approximately \$521 and \$741 for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

2. Interest income and yields on tax-exempt securities are not presented on a taxable equivalent basis.

3. Net interest margin is computed by dividing net interest income by total average interest-earning assets.

Distribution of Average Statements of Condition and Analysis of Net Interest Income
(in thousands, except percentage amounts)

	Nine months ended September 30, 2007			Nine months ended September 30, 2006		
	Average Balance	Interest	Yield/ Rate	Average Balance	Interest	Yield/ Rate
Assets						
Interest-earning assets:						
Loans (1)	\$ 485,664	\$ 31,435	8.65%	\$ 477,398	\$ 31,189	8.73%
Federal funds sold	57,295	2,236	5.22%	60,197	2,117	4.70%
Interest bearing due from banks	2,538	116	6.11%	—	—	
Investment securities, taxable	56,928	2,113	4.96%	50,335	1,814	4.82%
Investment securities, non-taxable (2)	28,320	915	4.32%	12,402	436	4.70%
Other interest earning assets	2,133	86	5.39%	2,088	79	5.06%
Total interest-earning assets	632,878	36,901	7.80%	602,420	35,635	7.91%
Non-interest-earning assets:						
Cash and due from banks	26,639			30,189		
Premises and equipment, net	8,174			8,193		
Other real estate owned	891			76		
Accrued interest receivable and other assets	22,575			20,378		
Total average assets	691,157			661,256		
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity:						
Interest-bearing liabilities:						
Interest-bearing transaction						
deposits	129,708	2,286	2.36%	90,003	951	1.41%
Savings and MMDA's	180,286	3,225	2.39%	190,990	2,704	1.89%
Time, under \$100,000	46,270	1,148	3.32%	50,434	998	2.65%
Time, \$100,000 and over	70,936	2,261	4.26%	67,756	1,673	3.30%
FHLB advances and other borrowings	10,518	247	3.14%	11,581	284	3.28%
Total interest-bearing liabilities	437,718	9,167	2.80%	410,764	6,610	2.15%
Non-interest-bearing liabilities:						
Non-interest-bearing demand deposits	183,662			186,540		
Accrued interest payable and other liabilities	7,106			5,730		
Total liabilities	628,486			603,034		
Total stockholders' equity	62,671			58,222		
Total average liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 691,157			\$ 661,256		
Net interest income and net interest margin (3)		\$ 27,734	5.86%		\$ 29,025	6.44%

1. Average balances for loans include loans held-for-sale and non-accrual loans and are net of the allowance for loan losses, but non-accrued interest thereon is excluded. Loan interest income includes loan fees of approximately \$1,767 and \$2,171 for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 respectively.
2. Interest income and yields on tax-exempt securities are not presented on a taxable equivalent basis.
3. Net interest margin is computed by dividing net interest income by total average interest-earning assets.

CHANGES IN FINANCIAL CONDITION

The assets of the Company set forth in the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets showed a \$16,476,000 increase in cash and due from banks, a \$57,655,000 decrease in Federal funds sold, a \$15,197,000 increase in investment securities available-for-sale, a \$79,000 increase in other interest earning assets, a \$33,193,000 increase in net loans held for investment, a \$2,842,000 decrease in loans held-for-sale, a \$131,000 decrease in premises and equipment, a \$123,000 decrease in other real estate owned and a \$914,000 increase in accrued interest receivable and other assets from December 31, 2006 to September 30, 2007. The increase in cash and due from banks was substantially the result of an increase in items in process of collection combined with an increase in interest bearing due from accounts. The decrease in Federal funds sold was largely due to increases in cash and due from banks, loans held for investment and investment securities available-for-sale, which was partially offset by an increase in deposits. The increase in investment securities available-for-sale was largely due to purchases of agency investment securities, tax exempt municipal investment securities and mortgage-backed investment securities. The increase in net loans held for investment was due to increases in the following loan categories: commercial; agricultural; equipment; and real estate commercial and construction, which were partially offset by decreases in the following loan categories: equipment leases; and real estate small business administration. These fluctuations were due to changes in the demand for loan products by the Company's borrowers. The decrease in loans held-for-sale was in real estate loans and was due, for the most part, to a decrease in the origination of loans. The Company originated approximately \$30,415,000 in residential mortgage loans during the first nine months of 2007, which was offset by approximately \$33,447,000 in loan sales during this period. The increase in other interest earning assets was due to an increase in Federal Home Loan Bank stock. The decrease in premises and equipment was due to increased depreciation which was partially offset by an increase in computer hardware purchases. The decrease in other real estate owned was due to the sale of an OREO property which was partially offset by the transfer of a real estate loan to OREO from loans held for investment. The increase in accrued interest receivable and other assets was mainly due to an increase in loan interest receivables, cash surrender value of bank owned life insurance and income taxes receivable, which was partially offset by decreases in prepaid expenses and securities interest receivables.

The liabilities of the Company set forth in the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets showed an increase in total deposits of \$4,138,000 at September 30, 2007 compared to December 31, 2006. The increase in deposits was due to higher interest-bearing transaction deposits, and \$100,000 and over time deposits, which was partially offset by lower demand deposits, savings and money market deposits and under \$100,000 time deposit totals. These fluctuations were due to interest rate and cyclical changes in deposit requirements of the Company's depositors. Federal Home Loan Bank advances ("FHLB advances") and other borrowings decreased \$303,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 compared to the year ended December 31, 2006, with a decrease in treasury tax and loan note payable combined with payments to the FHLB. Other liabilities decreased \$799,000 from December 31, 2006 to September 30, 2007. The decrease in other liabilities was due to decreases in incentive compensation expenses, accrued profit sharing expenses, accrued interest expense and accrued taxes payable, which were partially offset by increases in, accrued retirement expense, deferred compensation expense, accrued vacation and salary expense and provision for unfunded lending commitment losses.

CHANGES IN RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Interest Income

The Federal Open Market Committee decreased the Federal Funds rate by 50 basis points during the twelve-month period ended September 30, 2007.

Interest income on loans for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 was up 0.8% from the same period in 2006, increasing from \$31,189,000 to \$31,435,000 and was down 3.5% for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 over the same period in 2006, from \$11,070,000 to \$10,681,000. The increase in interest income on loans for the nine-month period ended as compared to the same period a year ago was primarily due to an increase in average loans combined with an 8 basis point decrease in loan yields. The decrease for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the same period a year ago was primarily due to a 53 basis point decrease in loan yields, which was partially offset by an increase in average loans.

Interest income on investment securities available-for-sale for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 was up 34.6% from the same period in 2006, increasing from \$2,250,000 to \$3,028,000 and was up 26.3% for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 over the same period in 2006, from \$806,000 to \$1,114,000. The increase in interest income on investment securities for the nine-month period ended as compared to the same period a year ago was primarily due to an increase in average investment securities combined with a 5 basis point increase in investment securities yields. This increase for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the same period a year ago was primarily due to an increase in average investment securities combined with a 5 basis point increase in investment securities yields.

Interest income on Federal Funds sold for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 was up 5.6% from the same period in 2006, increasing from \$2,117,000 to \$2,236,000 and was down 24.1% for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 over the same period in 2006, from \$506,000 to \$384,000. The increase in interest income on Federal Funds for the nine-month period ended as compared to the same period a year ago was primarily due to a 52 basis point increase in Federal Funds yields, which was partially offset by a decrease in average Federal Funds sold. The decrease for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the same period a year ago was primarily due to a decrease in average Federal Funds sold combined with a 7 basis point decrease in Federal Funds yields.

Interest income on other interest-earning assets for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 was up 8.9% from the same period in 2006, increasing from \$79,000 to \$86,000 and there was no change for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 over the same period in 2006. The increase in interest income on other interest-earning assets for the nine-month period ended as compared to the same period a year ago was primarily due to an increase in average other interest earning assets combined with a 33 basis point increase in other earning asset yields.

Interest income on interest bearing due from banks for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 was \$116,000 and was \$116,000 for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007. There was no interest bearing due from accounts for the three-month and nine-month periods ending September 30, 2006.

Interest Expense

There has been intense local competition for deposits and an increase in general market interest rates, which have increased the Company's cost of funds in the first nine months of 2007 compared to the same period a year ago.

Interest expense on deposits and other borrowings for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 was up 38.7% from the same period in 2006, increasing from \$6,610,000 to \$9,167,000, and was up 18.0% for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 over the same period in 2006 from \$2,551,000 to \$3,011,000. The increase in interest expense during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 was primarily due to a 65 basis point increase in the Company's average cost of funds combined with an increase in average interest bearing liabilities. The increase in interest expense during the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 was primarily due to a 27 basis point increase in the Company's average cost of funds combined with an increase in average interest bearing liabilities.

Provision for Loan Losses

There was a provision for loan losses of \$1,250,000 for the nine months period ended September 30, 2007 compared to a provision of \$585,000 for the same period in 2006. The increase in the provision during the nine-month period of 2007 was due to increased loans and the Company's evaluation of the quality of the loan portfolio. The allowance for loan losses was approximately \$9,153,000 or 1.77% of total loans at September 30, 2007 compared to \$8,361,000 or 1.73% of total loans at December 31, 2006. The allowance for loan losses is maintained at a level considered adequate by management to provide for probable loan losses inherent in the loan portfolio.

There was a provision for loan losses of \$990,000 for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 compared to a \$810,000 provision for the same period in 2006. The increase in the provision during the three-month period of 2007 was due to increased loans and the Company's evaluation of the quality of the loan portfolio.

Provision for Unfunded Lending Commitment Losses

There was a provision for unfunded lending commitment losses of \$110,000 for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 compared to a recovery of provision of \$61,000 for the same period in 2006. The provision for unfunded lending commitment losses was due to an increase in unfunded lending commitments.

There was a provision for unfunded lending commitment losses of \$100,000 for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 compared to a recovery of provision of \$61,000 for the same period in 2006.

The provision for unfunded lending commitment losses is included in non-interest expense.

Other Operating Income

Other operating income was up 24.6% for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 from the same period in 2006 increasing from \$4,018,000 to \$5,006,000.

This increase was primarily due to an increase in service charges on deposit accounts, gain on other real estate owned, gains on available for sale securities, fiduciary services income, loan servicing income, ATM fees, signature based transaction fees and other miscellaneous income, which was partially offset by a decrease in mortgage brokerage income and investment brokerage services income. The increase in service charges on deposit accounts was due to an increase in overdraft fees. The increase in gain on other real estate owned was due to the sale of a real estate property. The increase in fiduciary services income was due to an increase in the demand for those services. The increase in loan servicing income was due to an increase in the booked income for the Company's mortgage servicing asset. The increase in ATM fees and signature based transaction fees was due to an increase in ATM and signature based transactions. The increase in gains on available for sale securities was due the sale of securities during the third quarter of 2007. The increase in other miscellaneous income was due to an increase in deferred compensation insurance earnings. The decrease in mortgage brokerage fees was the result of a decrease in mortgage brokerage activity. The decrease in investment brokerage services income was due to a decrease in the demand for those services.

Other operating income was up 24.4% for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 from the same period in 2006 increasing from \$1,446,000 to \$1,800,000.

This increase was primarily due to an increase in gain on other real estate owned, service charges on deposit accounts, gains on available for sale securities, fiduciary services income, loan servicing income, ATM fees, and signature based transaction fees, which was partially offset by a decrease in gains on sales of loans, mortgage brokerage income and investment brokerage services income. The increase in gain on other real estate owned was due to the sale of a real estate property. The increase in service charges on deposit accounts was due to an increase in overdraft fees and wire transfer fees. The increase in gains on available for sale securities was due the sale of securities during the third quarter of 2007. The increase in fiduciary services income was due to an increase in the demand for those services. The increase in loan servicing income was due to an increase in the booked income for the Company's mortgage servicing asset. The increase in ATM fees and signature based transaction fees was due to an increase in ATM and signature based transactions. The decrease in gain on sales of loans was due to a decrease in the origination and sale of loans combined with lower pricing compared to the same period in 2006. The decrease in mortgage brokerage fees was the result of a decrease in mortgage brokerage activity. The decrease in investment brokerage services income was due to a decrease in the demand for those services.

Other Operating Expenses

Total other operating expenses was up 2.5% for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 from the same period in 2006, increasing from \$21,718,000 to \$22,263,000.

The principal reasons for the increase in other operating expenses in the nine-month period ended September 30, 2007 were due to increases in the following: data processing; stationery and supplies; advertising costs; directors' fees; other real estate owned and other miscellaneous operating expenses; which was partially offset by a decrease in salaries and benefits. The increase in data processing costs was due to increased expenses associated with maintaining and monitoring the Company's data communications network and internet banking system. The increase in stationery and supplies was due to an increase in supply usage. The increase in advertising costs was due to an increase in printed materials. The increase in directors' fees was due to an increase in the number of committee meetings. The increase in other real estate owned expense was due to the transfer of a real estate loan to OREO from loans held for investment. The decrease in salaries and benefits was due to decreases in the following: payroll taxes; profit sharing expenses; provision for incentive compensation due to decreased profits; worker's compensation expense; commissions paid; and welfare and recreation; which were partially offset by increases in merit salaries; deferred compensation interest expense; retirement compensation expense; group insurance and stock compensation expense.

Total other operating expenses was down 0.8% for the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 from the same period in 2006, decreasing from \$7,250,000 to \$7,190,000.

The principal reasons for the decrease in other operating expenses in the three-month period ended September 30, 2007 were due to decreases in the following: occupancy and equipment expense; stationery and supplies; and other miscellaneous operating expenses; which was partially offset by an increase in salaries and benefits, data processing, advertising costs, directors' fees and other real estate owned expense. The decrease in occupancy and equipment expense was due to decreased rent expense, depreciation expense, service contracts, utilities expense; property taxes; hazard and liability insurance and maintenance expense. The decrease in stationery and supplies was due to a decrease in supply usage. The increase in salaries and benefits was due to increases in the following: merit salaries; profit sharing expenses; payroll taxes; deferred compensation interest expense; retirement compensation expense; group insurance; and stock compensation expense; which was partially offset by decreases in provision for incentive compensation due to decreased profits; commissions paid and worker's compensation expense. The increase in data processing costs was due to increased expenses associated with maintaining and monitoring the Company's data communications network and internet banking system. The increase in advertising costs was due to an increase in printed materials. The increase in directors' fees was due to an increase in the number of committee meetings. The increase in other real estate owned expense was due to the transfer of a real estate loan to OREO from loans held for investment

Edgar Filing: FIRST NORTHERN COMMUNITY BANCORP - Form 10-Q

The following table sets forth other miscellaneous operating expenses by category for the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006.

	(in thousands)			
	Three months ended September 30, 2007	Three months ended September 30, 2006	Nine months ended September 30, 2007	Nine months ended September 30, 2006
Other miscellaneous operating expenses				
Provision (recovery of provision) for unfunded lending commitments	\$ 100	\$ (61)	\$ 110	\$ (61)
Contributions	15	35	110	95
Legal fees	58	71	237	214
Accounting and audit fees	57	113	309	364
Consulting fees	73	188	286	418
Postage expense	87	88	264	276
Telephone expense	63	56	186	156
Public relations	90	69	291	217
Training expense	43	64	182	209
Loan origination expense	87	153	486	445
Computer software depreciation	60	60	171	189
Other miscellaneous expense	437	377	1,277	1,060
Total other miscellaneous operating expenses	\$ 1,170	\$ 1,213	\$ 3,909	\$ 3,582

Income Taxes

The Company's tax rate, the Company's income before taxes and the amount of tax relief provided by nontaxable earnings primarily affect the Company's provision for income taxes.

In the nine months ended September 30, 2007, the Company's provision for income taxes decreased \$863,000 from the same period last year, from \$3,996,000 to \$3,133,000. The Company's effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 was 34.0%, compared to 37.2% for the same period in 2006.

In the three months ended September 30, 2007, the Company's provision for income taxes decreased \$284,000 from the same period last year, from \$1,195,000 to \$911,000. The Company's effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2007 was 31.1% compared to 36.9% for the same period in 2006.

The provision for income taxes for all periods presented is primarily attributable to the respective level of earnings and the incidence of allowable deductions, in particular non-taxable municipal bond income, tax credits generated from low-income housing investments, excludable interest income and for California franchise taxes, higher excludable interest income on loans within designated enterprise zones.

Off-Balance Sheet Commitments

The following table shows the distribution of the Company's undisbursed loan commitments at the dates indicated.
(in thousands)

	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
Undisbursed loan commitments	\$ 216,063	\$ 198,200
Standby letters of credit	13,621	12,222
	\$ 229,684	\$ 210,422

The reserve for unfunded lending commitments amounted to \$1,060,000 at September 30, 2007, up from \$950,000 at December 31, 2006. The increase was primarily related to increased undisbursed loan commitments. The reserve for unfunded lending commitments is included in other liabilities.

Asset Quality

The Company manages asset quality and credit risk by maintaining diversification in its loan portfolio and through review processes that include analysis of credit requests and ongoing examination of outstanding loans and delinquencies, with particular attention to portfolio dynamics and loan mix. The Company strives to identify loans experiencing difficulty early enough to correct the problems, to record charge-offs promptly based on realistic assessments of current collateral values and to maintain an adequate allowance for loan losses at all times.

It is generally the Company's policy to discontinue interest accruals once a loan is past due for a period of 90 days as to interest or principal payments. When a loan is placed on non-accrual, interest accruals cease and uncollected accrued interest is reversed and charged against current income. Payments received on non-accrual loans are applied against principal. A loan may only be restored to an accruing basis when it again becomes well secured and in the process of collection or all past due amounts have been collected.

Non-accrual loans amounted to \$9,479,000 at September 30, 2007 and were comprised of three commercial loans totaling \$1,616,000, three agricultural loans totaling \$761,000 and eleven real estate loans totaling \$7,102,000. At December 31, 2006, non-accrual loans amounted to \$3,399,000 and were comprised of five commercial loans totaling \$1,469,000, two agricultural loans totaling \$620,000 and two real estate loans totaling 1,310,000. At September 30, 2006, non-accrual loans amounted to \$2,798,000 and were comprised of six commercial loans totaling \$1,706,000, two agricultural loans totaling \$624,000 and two real estate loans totaling \$468,000. The increase in non-accrual loans at September 30, 2007 from the balance at December 31, 2006 was due to the addition of one commercial loan, one agricultural loan and ten real estate loans to non-accrual, which was partially offset by payments received on five commercial loans, two agricultural loans and one real estate loans combined with a transfer of a real estate loan to OREO.

Total impaired loans at September 30, 2007 totaled \$9,479,000, the majority of which were adequately collateralized or guaranteed by a governmental entity; specific reserves amounting to \$268,000 were allocated to these loans. *See* "Allowance for Loan Losses" below for additional information. No assurance can be given that the existing or any additional collateral will be sufficient to secure full recovery of the obligations owed under these loans.

The Company had loans 90 days past due and still accruing totaling \$1,613,000 at September 30, 2007. Such loans amounted to \$37,000 at December 31, 2006. The Company had no loans 90 days past due and still accruing at September 30, 2006.

Other real estate owned ("OREO") is made up of property that the Company has acquired by deed in lieu of foreclosure or through normal foreclosure proceedings, and property that the Company does not hold title to but is in actual control of, known as in-substance foreclosure. The estimated fair value of the property is determined prior to transferring the balance to OREO. The balance transferred to OREO is the lesser of the estimated fair market value of the property, or the book value of the loan, less estimated cost to sell. A write-down may be deemed necessary to bring the book value of the loan equal to the appraised value. Appraisals or loan officer evaluations are then done periodically thereafter charging any additional write-downs to the appropriate expense account.

OREO amounted to \$252,000 at September 30, 2007 and \$375,000 at December 31, 2006. The Company had no OREO properties at September 30, 2006.

Allowance for Loan Losses

The Company's Allowance for Loan Losses is maintained at a level believed by management to be adequate to provide for loan losses that can be reasonably anticipated. The allowance is increased by provisions charged to operating expense and reduced by net charge-offs. The Company makes credit reviews of the loan portfolio and considers current economic conditions, loan loss experience and other factors in determining the adequacy of the reserve balance. The allowance for loan losses is based on estimates and actual losses may vary from current estimates.

The following table summarizes the loan loss experience of the Company for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, and for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Analysis of the Allowance for Loan Losses
(Amounts in thousands, except percentage amounts)

	Nine months ended September 30,		Year ended December 31,
	2007	2006	2006
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 8,361	\$ 7,917	\$ 7,917
Provision for loan losses	1,250	585	735
Loans charged-off:			
Commercial	(201)	(400)	(572)
Agriculture	—	—	(57)
Real estate mortgage	(216)	—	—
Real estate construction	(17)	—	—
Installment loans to individuals	(536)	(317)	(431)
Total charged-off	(970)	(717)	(1,060)
Recoveries:			
Commercial	116	480	561
Agriculture	150	—	—
Installment loans to individuals	246	135	208
Total recoveries	512	615	769
Net charge-offs	(458)	(102)	(291)
Balance at end of period	\$ 9,153	\$ 8,400	\$ 8,361
Ratio of net charge-offs			
To average loans outstanding during the period	(0.09%)	(0.02%)	(0.06%)
Allowance for loan losses			
To total loans at the end of the period	1.77%	1.70%	1.73%
To non-performing loans at the end of the period	82.52%	300.21%	243.34%

Non-performing loans totaled \$11,092,000, \$2,798,000 and \$3,436,000 at September 30, 2007 and 2006 and December 31, 2006, respectively.

Deposits

Deposits are one of the Company's primary sources of funds. At September 30, 2007, the Company had the following deposit mix: 27.9% in savings and MMDA deposits, 18.9% in time deposits, 21.5% in interest-bearing transaction deposits and 31.7% in non-interest-bearing transaction deposits. Non-interest-bearing transaction deposits enhance the Company's net interest income by lowering its cost of funds.

The Company obtains deposits primarily from the communities it serves. No material portion of its deposits has been obtained from or is dependent on any one person or industry. The Company accepts deposits in excess of \$100,000 from customers. These deposits are priced to remain competitive.

Maturities of time certificates of deposits of \$100,000 or more outstanding at September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006 are summarized as follows:

	(in thousands)	
	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
Three months or less	\$ 24,029	\$ 28,729
Over three to twelve months	41,142	32,355
Over twelve months	4,959	5,215
Total	\$ 70,130	\$ 66,299

Liquidity and Capital Resources

In order to serve our market area, the Company must maintain adequate liquidity and adequate capital. Liquidity is measured by various ratios with the most common being the ratio of net loans to deposits (including loans held-for-sale). This ratio was 84.0% on September 30, 2007. In addition, on September 30, 2007, the Company had the following short-term investments: \$4,815,000 in Federal funds sold; \$13,500,000 in CDARS; \$11,896,000 in securities due within one year; and \$25,505,000 in securities due in one to five years.

To meet unanticipated funding requirements, the Company maintains short-term unsecured lines of credit with other banks totaling \$25,000,000; additionally the Company has a line of credit with the Federal Home Loan Bank, on which the current borrowing capacity is \$86,028,000.

The Company's primary source of liquidity on a stand-alone basis is dividends from the Bank. Dividends from the Bank are subject to regulatory restrictions.

As of September 30, 2007, the Bank's capital ratios exceeded applicable regulatory requirements. The following tables present the capital ratios for the Bank, compared to the standards for well-capitalized depository institutions, as of September 30, 2007.

	(amounts in thousands except percentage amounts)			
	<u>Actual</u>		Well Capitalized Ratio Requirement	Minimum Capital
	Capital	Ratio		
Leverage	\$ 63,369	9.12%	5.0%	4.0%
Tier 1 Risk-Based	\$ 63,369	10.61%	6.0%	4.0%
Total Risk-Based	\$ 70,643	11.82%	10.0%	8.0%

Return on Equity and Assets

	Nine months ended September 30, 2007	Nine months ended September 30, 2006	Year ended December 31, 2006
Annualized return on average assets	1.18%	1.36%	1.32%
Annualized return on beginning equity	13.11%	15.83%	15.51%

30

Prospective Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements." SFAS No. 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 establishes a fair value hierarchy about the assumptions used to measure fair value and clarifies assumptions about risk and the effect of a restriction on the sale or use of an asset. The standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company has not completed its evaluation of the impact of the adoption of this Standard on the Company's financial position and results of operations.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities." Under this Standard, the Company may elect to report financial instruments and certain other items at fair value on a contract-by-contract basis with changes in value reported in earnings. This election is irrevocable. SFAS No. 159 provides an opportunity to mitigate volatility in reported earnings that is caused by measuring hedged assets and liabilities that were previously required to use a different accounting method than the related hedging contracts when the complex provisions of SFAS No. 133 hedge accounting are not met. SFAS No. 159 is effective for years beginning after November 15, 2007. Early adoption within 120 days of the beginning of the Company's 2007 fiscal year is permissible, provided the Company has not yet issued interim financial statements for 2007 and has adopted SFAS No. 157. The Company has not completed its evaluation of the impact of the adoption of this Standard on the Company's financial position and results of operations.

In September 2006, the Emerging Issues Task Force issued EITF 06-4, "Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements." This consensus concludes that for a split-dollar life insurance arrangements within the scope of this Issue, an employer should recognize a liability for future benefits in accordance with SFAS No. 106 (if, in substance, a postretirement benefit plan exists) or APB Opinion No. 12 (if the arrangement is, in substance, an individual deferred compensation contract) based on the substantive agreement with the employee. The consensus is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2007. The Company does not expect the adoption of EITF 06-4 to have a material impact on its financial position and results of operations.

ITEM 3.

QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company believes that there have been no material changes in the quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk as of September 30, 2007, from those presented in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, which are incorporated by reference herein.

ITEM 4.

CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Our Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer) and Chief Financial Officer (principal financial officer) have concluded that the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures are effective as of September 30, 2007. This conclusion is based on an evaluation conducted under the supervision and with the participation of management. Disclosure controls and procedures are those controls and procedures which ensure that information required to be disclosed in this filing is accumulated and communicated to management and is recorded, processed, summarized and reported in a timely manner and in accordance with Securities and Exchange Commission rules and regulations.

During the quarter ended September 30, 2007, there were no changes in our internal controls over financial reporting that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION**ITEM 1A.****RISK FACTORS**

In addition to the other information set forth in this report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed in Part I, "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, which could materially affect our business, financial condition or future results. The risks described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K are not the only risks facing the Company. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and/or operating results.

ITEM 2.**UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS****Repurchases of Equity Securities**

On June 22, 2007, the Company approved a new stock repurchase program effective June 22, 2007 to replace the Company's previous stock repurchase plan that commenced May 1, 2006. The new stock repurchase program, which will remain in effect until June 21, 2009, allows repurchases by the Company in an aggregate of up to 4% of the Company's outstanding shares of common stock over each rolling twelve-month period. The Company repurchased 120,444 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock during the third quarter ended September 30, 2007.

The Company made the following purchases of its common stock during the quarter ended September 30, 2007:

Period	(a) Total number of shares purchased	(b) Average price paid per share	(c) Number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs	(d) Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the plans or programs
July 1 - July 31, 2007	39,237	\$ 17.10	39,237	295,809
August 1 - August 31, 2007	64,204	\$ 17.30	64,204	231,605
September 1 - September 30, 2007	17,003	\$ 18.95	17,003	214,602
Total	120,444	\$ 17.47	120,444	214,602

A 6% stock dividend was declared on January 25, 2007 with a record date of February 28, 2007 and is reflected in the number of shares purchased and average prices paid per share.

ITEM 6.

EXHIBITS

**Exhibit
Number**

Exhibit

- 31.1 Certification of the Company's Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 31.2 Certification of the Company's Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

FIRST NORTHERN COMMUNITY BANCORP

Date: November 8, 2007 by /s/ Louise A. Walker

Louise A. Walker, Sr. Executive Vice President / Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer and Duly Authorized Officer)