

COMMUNITY BANCORP /VT  
Form 10-K  
March 25, 2016

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UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015

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 No. 000-16435

Vermont 03-0284070  
(State of (IRS Employer  
Incorporation) Identification  
Number)

Address of Principal Executive Offices: 4811 US Route 5, Derby, Vermont 05829

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (802) 334-7915

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

| Title of Each<br>Class | Name of each<br>exchange on<br>which<br>registered |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| NONE                   | NONE                                               |

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

Common Stock - \$2.50 par value per share

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. YES ☐ NO ☒

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the

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Act. YES ☐ NO ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 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 ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). YES ☒ NO ☐

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. ☐

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

Large accelerated filer ☐ Accelerated filer ☐

☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐ Smaller reporting company

☒

(Do not check if a  
smaller reporting  
company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). YES ☐ NO ☒

As of June 30, 2015 the aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$66,486,258, based on a per share trade price on June 30, 2014 of \$14.35, as reported on the OTC Link ATS® system maintained by the OTC Markets Group Inc. For purposes of the calculation, all directors and executive officers were deemed to be affiliates of the registrant. However, such assumption is not intended as an admission of affiliate status as to any such individual.

There were 4,994,888 shares outstanding of the issuer's class of common stock as of the close of business on March 16, 2016.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Annual Report to Shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2015 (2015 Annual Report) are incorporated by reference to Part I of this Report.

Portions of the 2015 Annual Report are incorporated by reference to Part II of this report.

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on May 17, 2016 (2016 Annual Meeting) are incorporated by reference to Part III of this report.

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## FORM 10-K ANNUAL REPORT

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## PART I

### Item 1. The Business

#### Organization and Operation

The Company. Community Bancorp. (the "Company") was organized under the laws of the State of Vermont in 1982 and became a registered bank holding company under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended, in October 1983 when it acquired all of the voting shares of Community National Bank (the "Bank"), headquartered in Derby, Vermont. The Bank is the only subsidiary of the Company and principally all of the Company's business operations are presently conducted through it. Therefore, the following narrative and the other information about the Company contained in this report are based primarily on the Bank's operations.

The Bank; Banking Services. Community National Bank was organized in 1851 as the Peoples Bank, and was subsequently reorganized as the National Bank of Derby Line in 1865. In 1975, after 110 continuous years of operation as the National Bank of Derby Line, the Bank acquired the Island Pond National Bank and changed its name to "Community National Bank." On December 31, 2007, the Company completed its acquisition of LyndonBank, a Vermont bank headquartered in Lyndonville, Vermont, in a cash merger transaction. As a result of the merger, the Company expanded its existing branch network in Caledonia and Orleans Counties and expanded it into Lamoille and Franklin Counties. In addition to its main office in Derby, the Company currently maintains eleven branch offices in northeastern and central Vermont.

The Company, through Community National Bank, provides a broad range of retail banking services to the residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations and municipalities in northeastern and central Vermont. Significant services offered by the Company include:

**Business Banking** – The Company offers a range of credit products for a variety of general business purposes, including financing for commercial business properties, equipment, inventories and accounts receivable, as well as letters of credit. The Company also offers business checking and other deposit accounts, cash management services, repurchase agreements, automated clearing house (ACH) and wire transfer services and remote deposit capture.

**Commercial Real Estate Lending** – The Company provides a range of products to meet the financing needs of commercial developers and investors, residential builders and developers and community development entities. Credit products are available to facilitate the purchase of land and/or build structures for business use and for investors who are developing residential or commercial property, as well as for real estate secured financing of existing businesses.

**Residential Real Estate Lending** – The Company provides products to help meet the home financing needs of consumers, including conventional permanent and construction/permanent (fixed, adjustable, or variable rate) financing arrangements, and FHA/VA loan products. The Company offers both fixed-rate and adjustable rate residential mortgage (ARM) loans and home equity loans. A portion of the first lien residential mortgage loans originated by the Company are sold into the secondary market. The Company offers these products through its network of banking offices. The Company does not originate subprime residential real estate loans.

**Retail Credit** – The Company provides a full-range of loan products to meet the needs of consumers, including personal loans, automobile loans and boat/recreational vehicle loans. In addition, through a marketing alliance with a third party, the Company offers credit cards.

**Municipal and Institutional Banking** – The Company provides banking services to meet the needs of state and local governments, schools, charities, membership and not-for-profit associations including deposit account services, tax-exempt loans, lines of credit and term loans. In addition, through an arrangement with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston (“FHLBB”), the Company offers a secured deposit product to its municipal customers, collateralized by FHLBB letters of credit.

**Retail Banking** – The Company provides a full-range of consumer banking services, including checking accounts, savings programs, automated teller machines (ATMs), debit/credit cards, night deposit facilities and online, mobile and telephone banking.

The Company focuses on establishing and maintaining long-term relationships with customers and is committed to providing for the financial services needs of the communities it serves. In particular, the Company continues to emphasize its relationships with individual customers and small-to-medium-sized businesses. The Company actively evaluates the banking needs of its markets, including low- and moderate-income areas, and offers products that are responsive to the needs of its customer base. The Company’s markets provide a mix of real estate, commercial and industrial, municipal and consumer lending opportunities, as well as a stable core deposit base. Additional information about our business, including the Company’s deposit-taking activities, lending activities and credit and risk management policies, is set forth under the caption “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” contained in the 2015 Annual Report filed as Exhibit 13 to this Report and is incorporated herein by reference.

Trust Company Affiliate. In 2002, the Bank transferred its trust operations to a newly formed Vermont-chartered nondepository trust and investment management affiliate, Community Financial Services Group, LLC, based in Newport, Vermont ("CFSG"). The Bank's ownership interest in CFSG is held indirectly, through Community Financial Services Partners, LLC, a Vermont limited liability company ("CFSG Partners"), which owns 100% of the limited liability company equity interests of CFSG. Immediately following transfer of its trust operations to CFSG, the Bank sold a two-thirds interest in CFSG Partners, equally to the National Bank of Middlebury, headquartered in Middlebury, Vermont and Guaranty Bancorp Inc., the bank holding company parent of Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank, headquartered in Woodsville, New Hampshire. CFSG offers fiduciary services throughout the market areas of the three owner financial institutions and leases space from them in some of their branch offices.

Statutory Business Trust. In 2007, the Company formed CMTV Statutory Trust I (the "Trust"), a Delaware statutory business trust, for the purpose of issuing \$12.5 million of trust preferred securities and lending the proceeds to the Company. This funding provided a portion of the cash consideration paid by the Company in the acquisition of LyndonBank and provided additional regulatory capital. The Trust is a variable interest entity for which the Company is not the primary beneficiary, within the meaning of applicable accounting standards. Accordingly, the Trust is not consolidated with the Company for financial reporting purposes.

Tax Credit Entity. In 2011, the Company formed a limited liability company ("LLC") to facilitate its purchase of federal New Markets Tax Credits ("NMTCs") under an investment structure designed by a local community development entity. The LLC is a variable interest entity for which, in the context of the overall NMTC structure, the Company is not the primary beneficiary, within the meaning of applicable accounting standards. Accordingly, the LLC is not consolidated with the Company for financial reporting purposes.

## Competition

All of the Bank's offices are located in northern and central Vermont. The Bank's main office is located in Derby, in Orleans County. In addition to its main office, the Bank has four other banking offices in Orleans County, one office in Essex County, two offices in Caledonia County, two offices in Washington County and one office each in Franklin and Lamoille Counties. (See Part I, Item 2 (Properties) of this report.)

The Bank competes in all aspects of its business with other banks and credit unions in northern and central Vermont, including three of the largest banks in the state, which maintain branch offices throughout the Bank's service area. Changes in the regulatory framework of the banking industry during the past decade have broadened the competition for commercial bank products, such as deposits and loans, to include not only traditional rivals such as banks, savings banks and credit unions, but also many non-traditional rivals such as insurance companies, brokerage firms, mutual funds and consumer and commercial finance and leasing companies. In addition, many out-of-market nationwide banks, nonbank lenders and other financial service firms operate in the Company's market areas through mass marketing solicitations by mail, radio, television, the internet and email. At the same time, technological changes have facilitated remote delivery of financial services by bank and nonbank competitors outside the context of a traditional branch bank network, thereby intensifying competition from out-of-market firms.

Competition from the tax-exempt credit union industry has also intensified in recent years. A number of the Bank's credit union competitors, including the largest state-chartered Vermont credit union, have converted in recent years from an employment based common bond to a community common bond, thereby significantly increasing their fields of membership in the Bank's market areas. Because federal law subsidizes credit unions by giving them a general exemption from federal income taxes, they have a significant pricing advantage over commercial banks for their deposit and loan products. This pricing advantage, coupled with the relaxing of membership and regulatory restrictions on product offerings, has resulted in increased competition for the Bank from this tax exempt sector of the financial services industry.

In order to compete with other bank and non-bank service providers, the Company stresses the community orientation of its banking operations and relies to a large extent upon personal relationships established by its officers, directors and employees with their customers and on their strong ties to the local community. In addition, management's knowledge of the local community assists it in tailoring the Company's products and services to meet the needs of its customer base. Although competition is strong throughout the Company's market area, management believes that the Company can continue to compete effectively, in view of its local market knowledge and community ties and its understanding of customer needs.

## Employees

As of December 31, 2015, the Company did not have any employees at the holding company level. However, as of such date, the Bank employed 127 full-time employees and 17 part-time employees. The Bank is not a party to any collective bargaining agreement and management of the Bank considers its employee relations to be good.

## Regulation and Supervision

The following discussion describes elements of an extensive regulatory framework applicable to bank holding companies and banks, to which the Company and the Bank are subject. Regulation of banks and bank holding companies is intended primarily for the protection of depositors and the Deposit Insurance Fund of the FDIC, rather than for the protection of shareholders and creditors.

The Company's earnings are affected by general economic conditions, management policies, changes in federal and state laws and regulations and actions of various regulatory authorities, including those referred to below. Banking is a highly regulated business and proposals to change the laws and regulations to which the Company and the Bank are subject are frequently introduced at both the federal and state levels. The likelihood and timing of any such changes and the impact such changes may have on the Company and the Bank is impossible to predict with any certainty.

The following summary does not purport to be complete and is qualified by reference to the particular statutes and regulations.

**Dodd-Frank Act.** The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act") represents a comprehensive revision and restructuring of many aspects of financial services industry regulation and impacts practically all aspects of a banking organization. Implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act continued throughout 2015, including through various agency rulemakings. Many of the provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act are designed to reduce systemic risk from large, complex "systemically significant" financial institutions, and thus do not apply to a smaller banking organization such as the Company. Nevertheless, certain of its provisions do directly apply to the Company and others will indirectly impact its operations, as the Dodd-Frank Act continues to reshape the financial services environment. Among other things, the Act:

Established a new independent agency, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau ("CFPB"), with centralized responsibility for implementing and (with respect to large organizations) enforcing and examining compliance with federal consumer financial laws. Although the CFPB does not have enforcement or examination authority over smaller banking organizations such as the Company, its regulatory standards and mandates will ultimately affect all financial service providers;

Applies the same leverage and risk-based capital requirements that apply to insured depository institutions to most bank holding companies, savings and loan holding companies and systemically important non-bank financial companies on a consolidated basis. These changes prohibit the use of additional trust preferred securities as Tier 1 capital, but the Company's existing trust preferred securities are grandfathered;

Requires debit card interchange transaction fees charged by large financial institutions to be reasonable and proportional to the cost incurred by the issuer for the transaction. The Federal Reserve adopted regulations in 2011 establishing such fee standards, eliminating exclusivity arrangements between issuers and networks for debit card transactions and limiting restrictions on merchant discounting for use of certain payment forms and minimum or maximum amount thresholds as a condition for acceptance of credit cards. Although smaller institutions such as the Company are not subject to the interchange fee restrictions, it is possible that, over time, competitive pricing pressures in the marketplace may operate to make the restrictions applicable to them by default;

Requires public companies to periodically seek “say on executive pay” and “say on frequency” votes of shareholders, and in some circumstances, a “say on golden parachute” vote of shareholders. As a smaller reporting company, these vote requirements first became applicable for the Company’s 2013 annual meeting of shareholders;

Allowed depository institutions to pay interest on demand deposits effective July 21, 2011;

Established by statute the Federal Reserve’s “source of strength” doctrine mandating holding company financial support of subsidiary insured depository institutions;

Eliminated state restrictions on de novo interstate branching;

Established new requirements related to mortgage lending, including prohibitions against payment of steering incentives and provisions relating to underwriting standards, disclosures, appraisals and escrows. Many of these provisions have been implemented through CFPB rulemakings;

Weakened federal preemption standards for national banks and federal savings associations and their operating subsidiaries by granting states greater authority to enforce consumer protection laws against them;

Provided permanent relief for smaller reporting companies, such as the Company, from the requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act for auditor attestation of management's assessment of internal controls and their effectiveness;

Requires a bank holding company to be well capitalized and well managed to receive regulatory approval of an interstate bank acquisition; and

Permanently increases the FDIC's standard maximum deposit insurance amount to \$250,000, changes the FDIC insurance assessment base to assets rather than deposits and increases the reserve ratio for the deposit insurance fund to ensure the future strength of the fund.

The Company will continue to monitor the impact of ongoing regulatory implementation of this significant legislation.

Bank Holding Company Act. As a registered bank holding company, the Company is subject to on-going regulation, supervision and examination by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System ("Federal Reserve"), under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (the "Act"). A bank holding company for example, must generally obtain the prior approval of the Federal Reserve before it acquires all or substantially all of the assets of any bank, or acquires ownership or control of more than 5% of the voting shares of a bank. Federal Reserve approval is also generally required before a bank holding company may acquire more than 5% of any outstanding class of voting securities of a company other than a bank or a more than 5% interest in its property.

The Act generally limits the activity in which the Company and its subsidiaries may engage to certain specified activities, including those activities which the Federal Reserve may find, by order or regulation, to be so closely related to banking or managing or controlling banks as to be a proper incident thereto. Some of the activities that the Federal Reserve has determined to be closely related to banking are: (1) making and servicing loans that could be made by mortgage, finance, credit card or factoring companies; (2) performing the functions of a trust company; (3) certain leasing of real or personal property; (4) providing certain financial, banking or economic data processing services; (5) except as otherwise prohibited by law, acting as an insurance agent or broker with respect to insurance that is directly related to the extension of credit or the provision of other financial services or, under certain circumstances, with respect to insurance that is sold in certain small communities in which the bank holding company system maintains banking offices; (6) acting as an underwriter for credit life insurance and credit health and accident insurance directly related to extensions of credit by the holding company system; (7) providing certain kinds of management consulting advice to unaffiliated banks and non-bank depository institutions; (8) performing real estate appraisals; (9) issuing and selling money order and similar instruments and travelers checks and selling U.S. Savings Bonds; (10) providing certain securities brokerage and related services for the account of bank customers; (11) underwriting and dealing in certain government obligations and other obligations such as bankers' acceptances and certificates of deposit; (12) providing consumer financial counseling; (13) providing tax planning and preparation services; (14) providing check guarantee services to merchants; (15) operating a collection agency; and (16) operating a credit bureau. Trust and investment management activities conducted through a nondepository trust company such as the Company's affiliate, CFSG, are also considered by the Federal Reserve to be permissible nonbanking activities

that are closely related to banking.

Except for CFSG's trust and investment management operations, the Company does not presently engage, directly or indirectly through any affiliate, in any other permissible non-banking activities.

A bank holding company must also obtain prior Federal Reserve approval in order to purchase or redeem its own stock if the gross consideration to be paid, when added to the net consideration paid by the company for all purchases or redemptions by the company of its equity securities within the preceding 12 months, will equal 10% or more of the company's consolidated net worth.

The Company is required to file with the Federal Reserve Board annual and quarterly reports and such additional information as the Board may require pursuant to the Act. The Board may also make examinations of the Company and any direct or indirect subsidiary of the Company.

The Company, the Bank, CFSG Partners and CFSG are all considered "affiliates" of each other for the purposes of Section 18(j) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act ("FDIA"), as amended, and Sections 23A and 23B of the Federal Reserve Act, as amended. In particular, section 23A limits loans or other extensions of credit to, asset purchases with and investments in affiliates of the Bank to 10% of the Bank's capital and surplus. In addition, such loans and extensions of credit and certain other transactions must be collateralized in specified amounts. Section 23B requires, among other things, that certain transactions between the Bank and its affiliates must be on terms substantially the same, or at least as favorable to the Bank, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with or involving non-affiliated persons. Further, the Company is prohibited from engaging in certain tie-in arrangements in connection with any extension of credit or lease or sale of any property or the furnishing of services.

**Capital Adequacy Requirements.** Revised regulatory capital rules were adopted in July 2013 by the federal banking regulators to implement capital standards referred to as Basel III and developed by an international body known as the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and to implement certain requirements of the Dodd-Frank Act. The effect of the rules is to impose higher minimum capital requirements for bank holding companies and banks. The rules apply to all national and state banks and savings associations regardless of size and bank holding companies and savings and loan holding companies with \$500 million or more in total consolidated assets. More stringent requirements apply to certain larger banking organizations. The requirements in the rule began to phase in on January 1, 2015, for the Company and the Bank. The requirements in the rule will be fully phased in by January 1, 2019.

The Basel III capital rules include certain new and higher risk-based capital and leverage requirements than those previously in place. Specifically, the following minimum capital requirements now apply to the Company and the Bank:

- a new common equity Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 4.5%;
- a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 6% (increased from the former 4% requirement);
- a total risk-based capital ratio of 8% (unchanged from the former requirement); and
- a leverage ratio of 4% (also unchanged from the former requirement).

Under the rules, Tier 1 capital is redefined to include two components: Common Equity Tier 1 capital and additional Tier 1 capital. The new and highest form of capital, Common Equity Tier 1 capital, consists solely of common stock (plus related surplus), retained earnings, accumulated other comprehensive income, and limited amounts of minority interests that are in the form of common stock. Additional Tier 1 capital includes other perpetual instruments historically included in Tier 1 capital, such as noncumulative perpetual preferred stock. Tier 2 capital consists of instruments that currently qualify in Tier 2 capital plus instruments that the rule has disqualified from Tier 1 capital treatment. Cumulative perpetual preferred stock, formerly includable in Tier 1 capital, is now included only in Tier 2 capital. Although accumulated other comprehensive income (AOCI) is presumptively included in Common Equity Tier 1 capital, the rule provided a one-time opportunity at the end of the first quarter of 2015 for covered banking organizations to opt out of much of this treatment of AOCI. The Company and Bank made this opt-out election and, as a result, will retain the pre-existing regulatory capital treatment for AOCI.

In addition, in order to avoid restrictions on capital distributions or discretionary bonus payments to executives, a covered banking organization must maintain a "capital conservation buffer" on top of its minimum risk-based capital requirements. This buffer must consist solely of Tier 1 Common Equity, but the buffer applies to all three measurements (Common Equity Tier 1, Tier 1 capital and total capital). The capital conservation buffer will be phased in incrementally over time, becoming fully effective on January 1, 2019, and when fully-phased in, will consist of an additional amount of common equity equal to 2.5% of risk-weighted assets. As of January 1, 2016, the Company and

the Bank are required to hold a capital conservation buffer of 0.625%, increasing by that amount each successive year until 2019.

In general, the rules have had the effect of increasing capital requirements by increasing the risk weights on certain assets, including high volatility commercial real estate, certain loans past due 90 days or more or in nonaccrual status, mortgage servicing rights not includable in Common Equity Tier 1 capital, equity exposures, and claims on securities firms, that are used in the denominator of the three risk-based capital ratios.

The Company's capital ratios exceeded all applicable regulatory requirements at December 31, 2015. (See Note 20 to the Company's consolidated financial statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this report for additional information about the Company's and the Bank's regulatory capital ratios.) In addition, management has modeled the potential impact of the Basel III capital rules and believes that, as of December 31, 2015, the Company and the Bank would meet all applicable capital adequacy requirements under the Basel III capital standards on a fully-phased in basis as if such requirements had been in effect at December 31, 2015.

The Basel III capital standards also revised the FDIC's "prompt corrective action" requirements (see "Prompt Corrective Action" below).

**Sarbanes-Oxley Act.** The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 ("SOX") was enacted to increase corporate responsibility, to provide for enhanced penalties for accounting and auditing improprieties at publicly traded companies and to protect investors by improving the accuracy and reliability of corporate disclosures pursuant to the securities laws. SOX and the SEC's implementing regulations include provisions addressing, among other matters, the duties, functions and qualifications of audit committees for all public companies; certification of financial statements by the chief executive officer and the chief financial officer; the forfeiture of bonuses or other incentive-based compensation and profits from the sale of an issuer's securities by directors and senior officers in the twelve month period following initial publication of any financial statements that later require restatement; disclosure of off-balance sheet transactions; a prohibition on personal loans to directors and officers, except (in the case of banking companies) loans in the normal course of business; expedited filing requirements for reports of beneficial ownership of company stock by insiders; disclosure of a code of ethics for senior officers, and of any change or waiver of such code; the formation of a public accounting oversight board; auditor independence; disclosure of fees paid to the company's auditors for non-audit services and limitations on the provision of such services; attestation requirements for company management and external auditors, relating to internal controls and procedures; and various increased criminal penalties for violations of federal securities laws.

Since 2007 Section 404 of SOX has required management of the Company to undertake a periodic assessment of the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's internal controls over financial reporting. Management's report on internal control over financial reporting for 2015 is contained in Item 9A of this Report. The Company has incurred, and expects to continue to incur, costs in connection with its on-going compliance with Section 404.

As enacted in 2002 and implemented by the SEC, SOX provided that, beginning with annual financial statements for 2010, the Company's external auditors would be required to attest to, and report on, management's assessment of the Company's internal controls and the operating effectiveness of these controls. As noted above, however, the Dodd-Frank Act included permanent relief from this requirement for smaller reporting companies such as the Company.

Information on the Company's corporate governance practices, including committee charters, is available on the Company's website at [www.communitybancorpvt.com](http://www.communitybancorpvt.com).

**SEC Regulatory Relief for Smaller Reporting Companies.** In December 2007, the SEC adopted amendments to its disclosure and reporting rules to extend to more public companies the benefits of the simplified and less rigorous disclosure requirements previously applicable only to "small business issuers." The amendments established a new category of "smaller reporting companies" with a public float of less than \$75 million. The Company continues to qualify as a smaller reporting company as of its last measurement date (June 30, 2015). Under the amendments, smaller reporting companies are able to elect whether to comply with specified financial and nonfinancial disclosure requirements on an item by item basis. The amendments were effective February 4, 2008 and the Company has elected to avail itself of some of the relief provided in the amendments in connection with preparation of the Company's annual meeting proxy statement and its periodic reports, including this annual report on Form 10-K.

**Dividends.** The Company derives funds for payment of dividends to its shareholders primarily from dividends received from its subsidiary, Community National Bank. Under the National Bank Act, prior approval from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency ("OCC") is required if the total of all dividends declared by a national bank in any calendar year will exceed the sum of such bank's net profits for that last year and its retained net profits for the preceding two calendar years, less any required transfers to surplus. Federal law also prohibits national banks from paying dividends greater than the bank's undivided profits after deducting statutory bad debt in excess of the bank's

allowance for loan losses.

In addition, the Company and the Bank are subject to various general regulatory policies and requirements relating to the payment of dividends, including requirements to maintain adequate capital above regulatory minimums. The appropriate federal or state banking agency is authorized to determine under certain circumstances relating to the financial condition of a bank or bank holding company that the payment of dividends would be an unsafe or unsound practice and to prohibit such payment.

The Federal Reserve has issued supervisory guidance on the payment of dividends and redemption and repurchases of stock by bank holding companies reflecting the expectation that a bank holding company will inform and consult with Federal Reserve supervisory staff in advance of declaring and paying any dividend that could raise safety and soundness concerns. Examples of actions that might raise such concerns include declaration of a dividend exceeding current period earnings; redeeming or repurchasing regulatory capital instruments when the bank holding company is experiencing financial weaknesses; or redeeming or repurchasing common stock or perpetual preferred stock that would result in a net reduction in the amount of such equity instruments outstanding compared with the beginning of the quarter in which the redemption or repurchase occurred. The guidance provides that a bank holding company should eliminate, defer or severely limit dividends if net income for the past four quarters is not sufficient to fully fund dividends; the prospective rate of earnings retention is not consistent with the holding company's capital needs and overall current and prospective financial condition; or the holding company will not meet, or is in danger of not meeting, its minimum regulatory capital ratios. The Company would be required in future periods to consult with, and obtain the approval of, the Federal Reserve for payment of any dividends, including regular quarterly cash dividends, that are in excess of earnings for the applicable quarterly period.

OCC Supervision. The Bank is a national banking association and subject to the provisions of the National Bank Act and federal and state statutes and rules and regulations applicable to national banks. The primary supervisory authority for the Bank is the OCC. The OCC's examinations are designed for the protection of the Bank's depositors and not its shareholders. The Bank is subject to periodic examination by the OCC and must file periodic reports with the OCC containing a complete statement of its financial condition and results of operations.

The CFPB created by the Dodd-Frank Act took over responsibility for enforcing the principal federal consumer protection laws, such as the Truth in Lending Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act and the Truth in Saving Act, among others, in 2011. Institutions that have assets of \$10 billion or less, such as our Bank subsidiary, will continue to be supervised and examined in this area by their primary federal regulators (in the case of our Bank subsidiary, the OCC). However, the Dodd-Frank Act gives the CFPB expanded data collecting powers for fair lending purposes for both small business and mortgage loans, as well as expanded authority to prevent unfair, deceptive and abusive practices.

Prompt Corrective Action. The Bank is subject to regulatory capital requirements established under the Federal Deposit Insurance Company Improvement Act of 1991 ("FDICIA"). Among other things, FDICIA identifies five capital categories for insured depository institutions (well capitalized, adequately capitalized, undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized and critically undercapitalized) and requires the respective U.S. federal regulatory agencies to implement systems for "prompt corrective action" for insured depository institutions that do not meet minimum capital requirements within such categories. FDICIA imposes progressively more restrictive constraints on operations, management and capital distributions, depending on the category in which an institution is classified. Failure to meet the capital guidelines could also subject a banking institution to capital raising requirements. An "undercapitalized" bank must develop a capital restoration plan and its parent holding company must guarantee that bank's compliance with the plan. The liability of the parent holding company under any such guarantee is limited to the lesser of 5% of the bank's assets at the time it became undercapitalized or the amount needed to comply with the plan. Furthermore, in the event of the bankruptcy of the parent holding company, such guarantee would take priority over the parent's general unsecured creditors. In addition, FDICIA requires the various regulatory agencies to prescribe certain non-capital standards for safety and soundness related generally to operations and management, asset quality and executive compensation and permits regulatory action against a financial institution that does not meet such standards.

The federal bank regulatory agencies, including the OCC, have adopted substantially similar regulations that define the five capital categories identified by FDICIA. These regulations establish various degrees of corrective action to be taken when an institution is considered undercapitalized. Effective January 1, 2015, the FDIC's Prompt Corrective Action regulations were revised in accordance with the Basel III capital standards. The enhanced requirements (i) introduce a Common Equity Tier 1 ratio requirement at each capital category (other than critically undercapitalized), and set the required Common Equity Tier 1 ratio at 6.5% for well-capitalized status; (ii) increase the minimum Tier 1 capital ratio requirement for each category (other than critically undercapitalized), and set the minimum Tier 1 capital ratio for well-capitalized status at 8.0% (as compared to 6.0% under the prior rule); and (iii) eliminate the provision that permitted a bank with a composite supervisory rating of 1 to have a 3% leverage ratio and still be considered adequately capitalized. The Basel III capital standards do not change the total risk-based capital requirement for any prompt corrective action category.

As of December 31, 2015, the Bank was considered "well capitalized" under FDICIA's Prompt Corrective Action capital requirements. (See Note 20 to the Company's consolidated financial statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this report for additional information about the Bank's regulatory capital ratios.)

Deposit Insurance. The deposits of the Bank are insured by the Deposit Insurance Fund ("DIF") of the FDIC up to the limits set forth under applicable law and are subject to the deposit insurance premium assessments of the DIF. The

FDIC imposes a risk-based deposit premium assessments system, which was amended pursuant to the Federal Deposit Insurance Reform Act of 2005 and further amended by the Dodd-Frank Act. Under this system, as amended, the assessment rates for an insured depository institution vary according to the level of risk incurred in its activities. To arrive at an assessment rate for a banking institution, the FDIC places it in one of four risk categories determined by reference to its capital levels and supervisory ratings. In addition, in the case of those institutions in the lowest risk category, the FDIC further determines its assessment rate based on certain specified financial ratios or, if applicable, its long-term debt ratings. The assessment rate schedule can change from time to time, at the discretion of the FDIC, subject to certain limits. In addition, all FDIC insured depository institutions are required to pay a pro rata portion of the interest due on the obligations issued by the Financing Corporation ("FICO") to fund the closing and disposal of failed thrift institutions by the Resolution Trust Corporation.

The Dodd-Frank Act changed the assessment formula for determining deposit insurance premiums and modified certain insurance coverage provisions of the FDIA. The FDIC's implementing rules, which redefined the base for FDIC insurance assessments from the amount of insured deposits to average consolidated total assets less average tangible equity, became effective April 1, 2011. The Bank's total FDIC insurance assessment for 2015 was \$365,804.

The Dodd-Frank Act also permanently increased from \$100,000 to \$250,000 the maximum per depositor FDIC insurance amount.

**Brokered Deposits.** Under FDICIA, an FDIC-insured bank is prohibited from accepting brokered deposits without prior approval of the FDIC unless it is well capitalized under the FDICIA's prompt corrective actions guidelines. The Company participates in the Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service ("CDARS") of the Promontory Interfinancial Network, which uses a deposit-matching engine to match CDARS deposits in other participating banks, dollar-for-dollar. This product is designed to provide deposit insurance in excess of FDIC limits and thereby enhance customer attraction and retention, build deposits and improve net interest margins. CDARS also permits the "one-way" purchase of deposits, which the Company utilizes from time to time for liquidity management purposes. CDARS are considered brokered deposits for certain purposes under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act and FDIC regulations. As of December 31, 2015 the Company had CDARS deposits totaling \$4,164,471 in exchanged funds and \$2,777,775 in one-way funds. The Company's Asset, Liability and Funds Management Policy limits the use of brokered deposits to 5% of total assets.

**USA Patriot Act.** The USA PATRIOT Act is intended to strengthen the ability of U.S. law enforcement and the intelligence community to work cooperatively to combat terrorism on a variety of fronts. The Act contains sweeping anti-money laundering and financial transparency provisions and imposes various requirements, including standards for verifying client identification at account opening, and rules to promote cooperation among financial institutions, regulators and law enforcement entities in identifying parties that may be involved in terrorism or money laundering. The Secretary of the Treasury and federal banking regulators have adopted several regulations to implement these provisions. The Act also amended the federal Bank Holding Company Act and the Bank Merger Act to require the federal banking regulatory authorities to consider the effectiveness of a bank holding company or a financial institution's anti-money laundering activities when reviewing an application to expand operations. As required by law, Community National Bank has in place a Bank Secrecy Act and Anti-Money Laundering compliance program, as well as a customer identification program.

**Financial Privacy.** Under the federal Gramm-Leach-Bliley Financial Modernization Act of 1999 all financial institutions, including the Company, are required to adopt privacy policies, restrict the sharing of nonpublic consumer customer data with nonaffiliated parties, and establish procedures and practices to protect customer data from unauthorized access. The Company is also subject to similar, but more stringent, requirements under state law, including the Vermont Financial Privacy Act. In addition, the Company is subject to the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, including the amendments adopted in the federal Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 ("FACT Act"). The FACT Act includes many provisions concerning national credit reporting standards and permits consumers to opt out of information sharing among affiliated companies for marketing purposes. It also requires financial institutions to notify their customers if they report negative information about them to a credit bureau or if they are granted credit terms less favorable than those generally available. The Federal Reserve and the OCC have extensive rulemaking authority under the FACT Act and have promulgated rules implementing the Act, including rules limiting information sharing for affiliate marketing and rules requiring programs to identify, detect and mitigate certain identity theft red flags. The Company is also subject to the requirements of the Vermont Fair Credit Reporting Act, which generally requires an individual's consent in order to obtain a credit report, and to data security standards and data breach notice requirements.

**Qualified Mortgage Rules.** Pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Act, the CFPB adopted significant amendments to the regulations that implement the Truth in Lending Act. These amendments, which became effective January 10, 2014, address mortgage origination practices by certain housing creditors, including the Bank, and generally require mortgage lenders to determine consumers' ability to repay in one of two ways. The first alternative requires the mortgage lender to consider eight underwriting factors when making the credit decision. Alternatively, the mortgage lender can originate so-called "qualified mortgages ("QMs")," which are entitled to a presumption that the creditor making the loan satisfied the ability-to-repay requirements. In general, a qualified mortgage is a residential mortgage loan that does not have certain high risk features, such as negative amortization, interest-only payments, balloon payments, or a term exceeding 30 years. In addition, to be a qualified mortgage, the points and fees paid by a consumer cannot exceed 3% of the total loan amount and the borrower's total debt-to-income ratio must be no higher than 43% (subject to certain limited exceptions for loans eligible for purchase, guarantee or insurance by a government sponsored entity or a federal agency).

A lender originating a QM is protected against a legal claim that the lender failed to comply with the ability-to-repay requirement. A lender originating a mortgage that is not a QM is exposed to the risk of a potential claim that the lender did not comply with the ability-to-repay rules, which could require the lender to pay damages to the borrower, and could impair the lender's ability to enforce the loan terms or foreclose on the real estate collateral. The ability-to-repay requirement creates a new basis for after-the-fact challenge of QM status by regulators and by consumers and its future interpretation by the courts may create substantial legal uncertainty. The CFPB's mission is consumer protection, not lender safety and soundness, and for that reason the CFPB wrote the ability-to-repay rule with the goal of preventing consumers from being steered by lenders into expensive and unsustainable borrowing, rather than with the goal of assuring loan repayment. Accordingly, typical credit-quality features such as loan-to-value standards are not elements of the ability-to-repay rule, and it will not necessarily be the case that QMs have a higher probability or history of repayment than other mortgages. Compliance with the ability-to-repay/QM requirements have increased the Company's compliance costs, and may adversely affect the profitability of our routine residential mortgage lending operations. In addition, for the mortgage lending industry the ability-to-repay rule creates a bias in favor of QMs, which because of factors such as a minimum 43% debt-to-income ratio, could have unintended adverse effects, such as reducing community bank lending to low- and moderate-income borrowers and communities.

**Integrated TILA/RESPA ("TRID") Disclosures.** As required by the Dodd-Frank Act, the CFPB issued final rules in 2013 revising and integrating previously separate disclosures required under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA) and the Truth in Lending Act (TILA) in connection with certain closed-end consumer mortgage loans. These final rules became effective in October 2015 and require lenders to provide a new Loan Estimate (which combines content from the former Good Faith Estimate required under RESPA and the initial disclosures required under TILA) not later than the third business day after submission of a loan application, and a new Closing Disclosure (which combines content of the former HUD-1 Settlement Statement required under RESPA and the final disclosures required under TILA) at least three days prior to the loan closing. Other significant changes included in the TRID rules include: (1) expansion of the scope of loans that require RESPA early disclosures, including bridge loans, vacant land loans, and construction loans; (2) changes and additions to "waiting period" requirements to close a loan; (3) reduced tolerances for estimated fees and (4) the lender, rather than the closing agent, is responsible for providing final disclosures. As with the CFPB's ability-to-repay/QM rules, compliance with the TRID rules has increased the Company's compliance costs and may adversely affect the profitability of our routine residential mortgage lending operations.

**Community Reinvestment Act.** The Federal Community Reinvestment Act ("CRA") requires banks to define the communities they serve, identify the credit needs of those communities, collect and maintain data for each small business or small farm loan originated or purchased by the Bank, and maintain a Public File at each location. The federal banking regulators examine the institutions they regulate for compliance with the CRA and assign one of the following four ratings: "outstanding," "satisfactory," "needs to improve" or "substantial noncompliance". The rating assigned reflects the bank's record of helping to meet the credit needs of its entire community, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, consistent with the safe and sound operation of the bank. As of the Bank's last CRA examination, completed during 2014, it received a rating of "Outstanding".

**Home Mortgage Disclosure Act.** The federal Home Mortgage Disclosure Act ("HMDA"), which is implemented by Federal Reserve Board Regulation C, requires mortgage lenders that maintain offices within Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) to report and make available to the public specified information regarding their residential mortgage lending activities, such as the pricing of home mortgage loans, including the "rate spread" between the interest rate on loans and certain treasury securities and other benchmarks. In July 2015, the CFPB implemented and expanded new HMDA rules. The final rule adopts a dwelling-secured standard for all loans or lines of credit that are for personal, family, or household purposes. Thus, many consumer-purpose transactions, including closed-end home-equity loans, home-equity lines of credit, and reverse mortgages, are subject to the regulation. Most commercial-purpose transactions (i.e., loans or lines of credit not for personal, family, or household purposes) are subject to the regulation

only if they are for the purpose of home purchase, home improvement, or refinancing. The final rule excludes from coverage home improvement loans that are not secured by a dwelling (i.e., home improvement loans that are unsecured or that are secured by some other type of collateral) and all agricultural-purpose loans and lines of credit. Community National Bank became subject to HMDA reporting requirements as a result of its merger with LyndonBank in 2007, as the former LyndonBank branch in Enosburg Falls in Franklin County is included within the Burlington, Vermont MSA.

Flood Insurance Reform. The Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (“Biggert-Waters Act”), as amended by the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014, modified the National Flood Insurance Program by: (i) increasing the maximum civil penalty for Flood Disaster Protection Act violations to \$2,000 and eliminating the annual penalty cap; (ii) requiring certain lenders to escrow premiums and fees for flood insurance on residential improved real estate; (iii) directing lenders to accept private flood insurance and to notify borrowers of its availability; (iv) amending the force placement requirement provisions; and (v) permitting lenders to charge borrowers costs for lapses in or insufficient coverage. The civil penalty and force placed insurance provisions were effective immediately.

In July 2015, certain federal agencies issued a joint final rule exempting: (1) detached structures that are not used as a residence from the mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements and (2) HELOCs, business purpose loans, nonperforming loans, loans with terms of less than one year, loans for co-ops and condominiums, and subordinate loans on the same property from the mandatory escrow of flood insurance premium requirements. Additionally, the final rule requires certain lenders to escrow flood insurance payments and offer the option to escrow flood insurance premiums on residential improved real estate securing a loan, effective January 1, 2016. The federal agencies intend to address the private flood insurance provisions of the Biggert-Waters Act in a separate rulemaking.

The Company is complying with the revised flood insurance rules, including having given notice to certain customers of their option to escrow and as of January 1, 2016 requiring flood insurance escrow accounts on residential mortgages covered by the rule.

**Reserve Requirements.** Federal Reserve Board Regulation D requires all depository institutions to maintain reserves against their transaction accounts (generally, demand deposits, NOW accounts and certain other types of accounts that permit payments or transfers to third parties) or non-personal time deposits (generally, money market deposit accounts or other savings deposits held by corporations or other depositors that are not natural persons, and certain other types of time deposits), subject to certain exemptions. Because required reserves must be maintained in the form of either vault cash, a non-interest bearing account at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston or a pass through account (as defined by the Federal Reserve Board), the effect of these reserve requirements is to reduce the amount of the Company's interest-bearing assets.

**Federal Home Loan Bank System.** Community National Bank is a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank System, which consists of 12 regional Federal Home Loan Banks. The Federal Home Loan Bank provides a central credit facility primarily for member institutions. Member institutions are required to purchase and hold shares of capital stock in the applicable regional Federal Home Loan Bank (the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston, in the case of Community National Bank), in an amount at least equal to the sum of 0.35% of the aggregate principal amount of its unpaid residential mortgage loans and similar obligations at the beginning of each year and 4.5% of its advances (borrowings) from the Federal Home Loan Bank. Community National Bank was in compliance with this requirement with an investment in Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston ("FHLBB") stock at December 31, 2015 of approximately \$1.9 million. During 2009, the FHLBB experienced significant net operating losses, and as a result temporarily ceased paying dividends on its stock and instituted a moratorium on stock repurchases and redemptions. In 2011, the FHLBB resumed paying dividends, but at a more modest rate than previous years and in February 2012 it lifted the moratorium on stock redemptions. As a member, the Bank is subject to future capital calls by the FHLBB in order to maintain compliance with its capital plan.

**Executive Compensation Guidelines.** In 2009, the Federal Reserve issued comprehensive guidance on executive compensation policies, intended to ensure that the incentive compensation practices of banking organizations do not undermine their safety and soundness by encouraging excessive risk-taking. The guidance covers all employees that have the ability to affect materially an institution's risk profile, either individually or as part of a group, and establishes that incentive compensation arrangements should (1) provide incentives that do not encourage risk-taking beyond the institution's ability to identify and manage effectively; (2) be compatible with effective internal controls and risk management; and (3) be supported by strong corporate governance, including active and effective oversight by the board of directors. The guidance instructed institutions to begin an immediate review of their incentive compensation policies to ensure that they do not encourage excessive risk-taking and implement corrective programs as needed. Where deficiencies in incentive compensation arrangements exist, they must be immediately addressed. For institutions such as the Company that are not "large, complex banking organizations" as defined in the guidance, the Federal Reserve will review the incentive compensation arrangements as part of its regular, risk-focused examination process and not in a separate examination. These examinations will be tailored to the scope and complexity of the institution's activity and compensation arrangements. The findings will be included in the Federal Reserve's

examination report and deficiencies will be incorporated into the institution's supervisory ratings. Enforcement actions may be taken against an institution if its incentive compensation arrangements, or related risk management control or governance processes, pose a risk to the institution's safety and soundness and the institution fails to take prompt and effective measures to correct the deficiencies.

Other Legislative and Regulatory Initiatives. In addition to the statutes, regulations and regulatory initiatives described above, new legislation and regulations affecting financial institutions are frequently proposed. If enacted or adopted, these measures could change banking statutes and the Company's operating environment in substantial and unpredictable ways and could further increase reporting and compliance requirements, governance structures and costs of doing business. The Company cannot predict whether any such additional legislation or other regulatory initiatives will be adopted or the effect they may have on the Company's business, results of operations or financial condition.

## Effects of Government Monetary Policy

The earnings of the Company are affected by general and local economic conditions and by the policies of various governmental regulatory authorities. In particular, the Federal Reserve Board regulates money supply, credit conditions and interest rates in order to influence general economic conditions, primarily through open market operations in United States Government Securities, varying the discount rate on member bank borrowings, setting reserve requirements against member and nonmember bank deposits, regulating interest rates payable by member banks on time and savings deposits and expanding or contracting the money supply. Federal Reserve Board monetary policies have had a significant effect on the operating results of commercial banks, including the Company, in the past and are expected to continue to do so in the future.

## Other Available Information

This annual report on Form 10-K is on file with SEC. The Company also files with the SEC quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K, as well as proxy materials for its annual meetings of shareholders. You may obtain copies of these documents by visiting the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-0213, by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 or by accessing the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. The Company's SEC-filed reports and proxy statements are also available through a link on the Company's website at [www.communitybancorpvt.com](http://www.communitybancorpvt.com). The Company has also posted on its website the Company's Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers and the Principal Executive Officer, the Insider Trading Policy and the charters of the Audit, Compensation and Nominating Committees. The information and documents contained on the Company's website do not constitute part of this report. Copies of the Company's reports filed with the SEC (other than exhibits) can also be obtained by contacting Chris Bumps, Corporate Secretary, at our principal offices, which are located at 4811 U.S. Route 5, Derby, Vermont 05829 or by calling (802) 334-7915.

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

Omitted, in accordance with the regulatory relief available to smaller reporting companies in SEC Release Nos. 33-8876 and 34-56994 (effective February 4, 2008).

## Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

Not Applicable

## Item 2. Properties

Although Community Bancorp. does not itself own or lease real property, Community National Bank owns and leases various properties for its banking operations. All of the Bank's offices are located in Vermont. In July, 2015, the Company closed two of its banking offices in Caledonia County in an effort to reduce overhead costs by consolidating those offices with other Bank branches in close proximity.

The Company's administrative offices are located at the main offices of the Bank on U.S. Route 5 in Derby, Vermont, with total office space of approximately 34,000 square feet, including retail banking offices, an operations center as well as a community room used by the Bank for meetings and various functions. This community room has a secure outside access making it possible for the Bank to offer it to non-profit organizations after banking hours free of charge. This office is equipped with a remote drive-up facility and a drive-up ATM as well as an inside lobby ATM.



In addition to its main office, the Company currently owns or leases the following premises in five Vermont counties:

| Branch Location                    | Owned | Leased         | CFSG<br>Office <sup>1</sup> |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Caledonia County</b>            |       |                |                             |
| St. Johnsbury (Railroad Street)    |       | X <sup>2</sup> |                             |
| St. Johnsbury (Route 5)            |       | X <sup>3</sup> |                             |
| Lyndon (Memorial Drive)            |       | X <sup>4</sup> | X                           |
| <b>Franklin County</b>             |       |                |                             |
| Enosburg Falls (Sampsonville Road) | X     |                |                             |
| <b>Lamoille County</b>             |       |                |                             |
| Morrisville (Route 15 West)        |       | X              |                             |
| <b>Orleans County</b>              |       |                |                             |
| Barton (Church Street)             | X     |                |                             |
| Derby Line (Main Street)           | X     |                |                             |
| Island Pond (Route 105)            |       | X              |                             |
| Newport (Main Street)              | X     |                | X                           |
| Troy (Route 101)                   | X     |                |                             |
| <b>Washington County</b>           |       |                |                             |
| Barre (North Main Street)          | X     |                | X                           |
| Montpelier (State Street)          |       | X              |                             |

1 The Bank leases space at some of its branch locations to its affiliated trust and investment management affiliate, Community Financial Services Group, LLC (CFSG), including premises in Newport, Vermont used as CFSG's main office.

2 These premises consist of approximately 1,600 square feet on the southern end of Railroad Street and were formerly used as a branch office, now closed.

3 This branch consists of approximately 2,250 square feet in the front of the Price Chopper building at the corner of the I-91 Access Road and Route 5 in the town of St. Johnsbury and is leased on market terms from St. Johnsbury Properties, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Murphy Realty Co. Inc. of St. Johnsbury. Peter Murphy, President of Murphy Realty, is a former director of the Company and the Bank.

4 This branch consists of a building on Memorial Drive comprising approximately 2,600 square feet in the town of Lyndon and is leased on market terms from a neighboring business, 48 Broad Street, LLC, owned by David Stahler who is a member of the Bank's Caledonia County advisory board.

In addition to ATMs at the main office and all branch locations, the Company maintains cash machines at 10 third party locations throughout its market area. A complete listing of the Company's banking offices and off-premises ATM and cash machine locations is contained on the Bank's website at [www.communitynationalbank.com](http://www.communitynationalbank.com).

All of the Company's owned premises are free and clear of any mortgages or encumbrances and, in management's view, all locations are suitable for conducting the Bank's business.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

There are no pending legal proceedings to which the Company or the Bank is a party or of which any of its property is the subject, other than routine litigation incidental to its banking business, none of which, in the opinion of management, is material to the Company's consolidated operations or financial condition.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not Applicable

## PART II.

## Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Information on the trading market in, market price of, and dividends paid on, the Company's common stock is incorporated by reference to the section of the 2015 Annual Report under the caption "Common Stock Performance by Quarter" immediately following the "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations", filed as Exhibit 13 to this report. The balance of the information required by item 201 of Regulation S-K is omitted in accordance with the regulatory relief available to smaller reporting companies in SEC Release Nos. 33-8876 and 34-56994 (effective February 4, 2008).

During the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2015, purchases of the Company's common stock by the Company or by any affiliated purchaser (as defined in SEC Rule 10b-18) were as follows:

| For the period:          | Total Number<br>of Shares<br>Purchased(1)(2) | Average<br>Price Paid<br>Per Share | Total<br>Number of<br>Shares<br>Purchased<br>as Part of<br>Publicly<br>Announced<br>Plan | Maximum<br>Number of<br>Shares<br>That May<br>Yet<br>Be<br>Purchased<br>Under<br>the Plan at<br>the End<br>of the<br>Period |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 1 - October 31   | 1,060                                        | \$ 14.40                           | N/A                                                                                      | N/A                                                                                                                         |
| November 1 - November 30 | 0                                            | 0.00                               | N/A                                                                                      | N/A                                                                                                                         |
| December 1 - December 31 | 0                                            | 0.00                               | N/A                                                                                      | N/A                                                                                                                         |
| Total                    | 1,060                                        | \$ 14.40                           | N/A                                                                                      | N/A                                                                                                                         |

## Item 6. Selected Financial Data

Omitted, in accordance with the regulatory relief available to smaller reporting companies in SEC Release Nos. 33-8876 and 34-56994 (effective Feb. 4, 2008).

## Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Incorporated by reference to the section of the 2015 Annual Report under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," immediately following the "Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements", filed as Exhibit 13 to this report.

## Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Incorporated by reference to the subsection labeled "Risk Management" of Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, contained in the 2015 Annual Report, filed as Exhibit 13 to this report.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

The audited consolidated financial statements and related notes of Community Bancorp. and Subsidiary and the report thereon of the independent registered accounting firm of Berry Dunn McNeil & Parker, LLC are incorporated herein by reference from the 2015 Annual Report, filed as Exhibit 13 to this report.

In accordance with the regulatory relief available to smaller reporting companies in SEC Release Nos. 33-8876 and 34-56994 (effective Feb. 4, 2008), the Company has elected to present audited statements of income, comprehensive income, cash flows and changes in shareholders' equity for each of the preceding two, rather than three, fiscal years.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

None

## Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

### Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”). As of December 31, 2015, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation, management concluded that its disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2015 were effective in ensuring that material information required to be disclosed in the reports it files with the Commission under the Exchange Act was recorded, processed, summarized, and reported on a timely basis.

### Management’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act. As of December 31, 2015, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting. Management assessed the Company’s system of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, in relation to criteria for effective internal control over financial reporting as described in “Internal Control – Integrated Framework,” issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on this assessment, management believes that, as of December 31, 2015, its system of internal control over financial reporting met those criteria and is effective.

This Annual Report does not include an attestation report of the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm regarding internal control over financial reporting. Management’s report is not subject to attestation by the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm pursuant to permanent relief accorded to smaller reporting companies in the Dodd-Frank Act.

### Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in the Company’s internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended December 31, 2015 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company’s internal control over financial reporting.

## Item 9B. Other Information

None

### PART III.

#### Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The following is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting.

Listing of the names, ages, principal occupations, business experience and specific qualifications of the incumbent directors and nominees under the caption "PROPOSAL I - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS."

Listing of the names, ages, titles and business experience of the executive officers under the caption EXECUTIVE OFFICERS."

Information regarding compliance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 under the caption "SHARE OWNERSHIP INFORMATION -Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance."

Information regarding changes in the Company's procedures for submission of director nominations by shareholders under the caption "SHAREHOLDER NOMINATIONS AND OTHER PROPOSALS."

Information regarding whether a member of the Audit Committee qualifies as an audit committee financial expert under applicable SEC rules, under the caption "CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - Board Committees."

The Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers and the Principal Executive Officer is available on the Company's website at [www.communitybancorpvt.com](http://www.communitybancorpvt.com). The Code is also listed as Exhibit 14 to this report and incorporated by reference to a prior filing with the SEC. There were no waivers of any provision of the Code during 2015.

#### Item 11. Executive Compensation

The following is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting:

Information regarding compensation of directors under the captions "PROPOSAL I - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS - Directors' Fees and Other Compensation" and "-Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan."

Information regarding executive compensation and benefit plans under the caption "EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION."

Information regarding management interlocks and certain transactions under the caption "CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation."

#### Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

The following is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting:

Information regarding the share ownership of management and principal shareholders under the caption "SHARE OWNERSHIP INFORMATION."

The Company does not maintain any equity compensation plans for which disclosure is required under Item 201(d) of SEC Regulation S-K.

#### Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

The following is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting:

Information regarding transactions with management under the caption "CORPORATE GOVERNANCE -Transactions with Management."

Information regarding the independence of directors under the caption "CORPORATE GOVERNANCE – Director Independence."

Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services

The following is incorporated by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting under the caption "PROPOSAL 3 - RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS - Fees Paid to Independent Auditors":

Fees paid to the principal accountant for various audit functions including, but not limited to, the audit of the annual financial statements in the Company's Form 10-K Report and review of the financial statements in the Company's Form 10-Q Reports.

Description of the audit committee's pre-approval policies and procedures required by paragraph (c) (7)(I) of rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X.

## PART IV.

### Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

#### (a) Financial Statements

The following are included in this report and are incorporated by reference to the 2015 Annual Report, filed as Exhibit 13 to this report:

Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2015 and 2014

Consolidated Statements of Income for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Report of Berry Dunn McNeil & Parker, LLC, independent registered public accountants

#### (b) Exhibits

The following exhibits, previously filed with the Commission, are incorporated by reference:

Exhibit 3(i) - Amended and Restated Articles of Association, filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form 10-Q Report filed on August 12, 2014.

Exhibit 3(ii) - Certificate of Creation, Designation, Powers, Preferences, Rights, Privileges, Qualifications, Limitations, Restrictions, Terms and Conditions of the Series A Fixed-to-Floating Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, filed as Exhibit 3(i) to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on December 31, 2007.

Exhibit 3(iii) - Amended and Restated By-laws of Community Bancorp. as amended and restated through March 12, 2013, filed as Exhibit 3.1 in the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on March 14, 2013.

Exhibit 4(i) - Indenture dated as of October 31, 2007 between Community Bancorp., as issuer and Wilmington Trust Company, as indenture trustee, filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on November 2, 2007.

Exhibit 4(ii) - Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust dated as of October 31, 2007 among Community Bancorp., as sponsor, Wilmington Trust Company, as Delaware and institutional Trustee, and the administrators named therein, filed as Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on November 2, 2007.

Exhibit 10(i) - Guarantee Agreement dated as of October 31, 2007 between Community Bancorp., as guarantor and Wilmington Trust Company, as guarantee trustee, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on November 2, 2007.

Exhibit 10(ii)\* - Amended and Restated Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on December 15, 2008.

Exhibit 10(iii)\* - Amended and Restated Supplemental Retirement Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on December 15, 2008.

Exhibit 10(iv)\* - Amended and Restated Officer Incentive Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on March 13, 2015.

Exhibit 10(v)\* - Description of the Directors Retirement Plan, filed as Exhibit 10(iv) to the Company's Form 10-K Report filed on March 30, 2005; plan terminated in 2005 with respect to future accruals, as disclosed in the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on December 19, 2005.

Exhibit 10(vi)\* - Change in Control Agreement for Executive Vice President (Company), Chief Operating Officer (Bank), filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on June 23, 2015.

Exhibit 10(vii)\* - Change in Control Agreement for Treasurer (Company), Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Bank), filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on June 23, 2015.

Exhibit 10(viii) \* - Change in Control Agreement for Vice President (Company), Senior Vice President and Chief Credit Officer (Bank), filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 8-K Report filed on June 23, 2015.

Exhibit 14 – Amended Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers and the Principal Executive Officer, filed as Exhibit 14 to the Company's Form 8-K Report on July 12, 2010.

The following exhibits are filed as part of this report:\*\*

Exhibit 13 - Portions of the 2015 Annual Report, specifically incorporated by reference into this report.

Exhibit 21 - Subsidiaries of Community Bancorp.

Exhibit 23 - Consent of Berry Dunn McNeil & Parker, LLC

Exhibit 31(i) - Certification from the Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) of the Company pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Exhibit 31(ii) - Certification from the Treasurer (Principal Financial Officer) of the Company pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Exhibit 32(i) - Certification from the Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) of the Company pursuant to section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Exhibit 32(ii) - Certification from the Treasurer (Principal Financial Officer) of the Company pursuant to section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Exhibit 101--The following materials from the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 formatted in eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL): (i) the audited consolidated balance sheets, (ii) the audited consolidated statements of income, (iii) the audited consolidated statements of comprehensive income; (iv) the audited consolidated statements of changes in shareholders' equity, (v) the audited consolidated statements of cash flows and (vi) related notes, for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

\* Denotes compensatory plan or arrangement.

\*\* Exhibit 12 (Statement re Computation of Ratios) is omitted in accordance with the regulatory relief available to smaller reporting companies in SEC Release Nos. 33-8876 and 34-56994 (effective February 4, 2008).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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.

COMMUNITY BANCORP.

|                                                                                                                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| BY: /s/ Stephen P.<br>Marsh<br>Stephen P. Marsh, Chief<br>Executive<br>Officer and Board Chair<br>(Principal Executive<br>Officer) | Date: March 25, 2016 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

|                                                                                                                                 |                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| BY: /s/ Stephen P. Marsh<br>Stephen P. Marsh, Chief<br>Executive<br>Officer and Board Chair<br>(Principal Executive<br>Officer) | Date: March 25, 2016 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|

|                                                                                                   |                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| BY: /s/ Louise M. Bonvechio<br>Louise M. Bonvechio,<br>Treasurer<br>(Principal Financial Officer) | Date: March 25, 2016 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|

|                                                                                           |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| BY: /s/ Candace A. Patenaude<br>Candace A. Patenaude<br>(Principal Accounting<br>Officer) | Date: March 25, 2016 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|

COMMUNITY BANCORP. DIRECTORS

|                                        |                      |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|
| /s/ Thomas E. Adams<br>Thomas E. Adams | Date: March 25, 2016 |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|

|                                            |                      |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| /s/ Kathryn M. Austin<br>Kathryn M. Austin | Date: March 25, 2016 |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|

|                                            |                      |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| /s/ David M. Bouffard<br>David M. Bouffard | Date: March 25, 2016 |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|

|                                                        |                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| /s/ Charles W. Bucknam, Jr.<br>Charles W. Buckman, Jr. | Date: March 25, 2016 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|

/s/ Aminta K. Conant  
Aminta K. Conant

Date: March 25, 2016

/s/ Jacques R. Couture  
Jacques R. Couture

Date: March 25, 2016

/s/ Rosemary M. Lalime  
Rosemary M. Lalime

Date: March 25, 2016

/s/ Patrick M. Malone  
Patrick M. Malone

Date: March 25, 2016

/s/ Stephen P. Marsh  
Stephen P. Marsh

Date: March 25, 2016

/s/ Dorothy R. Mitchell  
Dorothy R. Mitchell

Date: March 25, 2016

/s/ Frederic Oeschger  
Frederic Oeschger

Date: March 25, 2016

/s/James G. Wheeler, Jr.  
James G. Wheeler, Jr.

Date: March 25, 2016