

FULTON FINANCIAL CORP

Form 10-Q

November 09, 2006

Table of Contents

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20459
FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2006, 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. 0-10587
FULTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

PENNSYLVANIA

23-2195389

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

One Penn Square, P.O. Box 4887 Lancaster,
Pennsylvania

17604

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

(717) 291-2411

(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 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 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. (Check One):

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

APPLICABLE ONLY TO CORPORATE ISSUERS:

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date:

Common Stock, \$2.50 Par Value 173,502,000 shares outstanding as of October 31, 2006.

Table of Contents

**FULTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION
FORM 10-Q FOR THE QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2006
INDEX**

| Description | Page |
|---|------|
| PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION | |
| <u>Item 1. Financial Statements (Unaudited):</u> | |
| <u>(a) Consolidated Balance Sheets – September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005</u> | 3 |
| <u>(b) Consolidated Statements of Income – Three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005</u> | 4 |
| <u>(c) Consolidated Statements of Shareholders’ Equity and Comprehensive Income – Nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005</u> | 5 |
| <u>(d) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows – Nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005</u> | 6 |
| <u>(e) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u> | 7 |
| <u>Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> | 15 |
| <u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u> | 41 |
| <u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u> | 44 |
| <u>PART II. OTHER INFORMATION</u> | |
| <u>Item 1. Legal Proceedings</u> | 45 |
| <u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u> | 45 |
| <u>Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u> | 45 |
| <u>Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u> | 45 |
| <u>Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u> | 45 |
| <u>Item 5. Other Information</u> | 45 |
| <u>Item 6. Exhibits</u> | 45 |
| <u>Signatures</u> | 46 |
| <u>Exhibit Index</u> | 47 |
| <u>Certifications</u> | 48 |

Table of Contents**Item 1. Financial Statements****FULTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(dollars in thousands, except per-share data)**

| | September 30 2006 (unaudited) | December 31 2005 |
|--|--|---------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Cash and due from banks | \$ 338,598 | \$ 368,043 |
| Interest-bearing deposits with other banks | 26,072 | 31,404 |
| Federal funds sold | 9,812 | 528 |
| Loans held for sale | 236,787 | 243,378 |
| Investment securities: | | |
| Held to maturity (estimated fair value of \$12,689 in 2006 and \$18,317 in 2005) | 12,703 | 18,258 |
| Available for sale | 2,937,968 | 2,543,887 |
| Loans, net of unearned income | 10,312,057 | 8,424,728 |
| Less: Allowance for loan losses | (107,422) | (92,847) |
| <i>Net Loans</i> | 10,204,635 | 8,331,881 |
| Premises and equipment | 188,403 | 170,254 |
| Accrued interest receivable | 70,901 | 53,261 |
| Goodwill | 621,837 | 418,735 |
| Intangible assets | 39,757 | 29,687 |
| Other assets | 223,179 | 192,239 |
| <i>Total Assets</i> | \$ 14,910,652 | \$ 12,401,555 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Deposits: | | |
| Noninterest-bearing | \$ 1,886,514 | \$ 1,672,637 |
| Interest-bearing | 8,390,514 | 7,132,202 |
| <i>Total Deposits</i> | 10,277,028 | 8,804,839 |
| Short-term borrowings: | | |
| Federal funds purchased | 1,183,447 | 939,096 |
| Other short-term borrowings | 650,197 | 359,866 |
| <i>Total Short-Term Borrowings</i> | 1,833,644 | 1,298,962 |

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Accrued interest payable | 57,130 | 38,604 |
| Other liabilities | 135,937 | 115,834 |
| Federal Home Loan Bank advances and long-term debt | 1,109,220 | 860,345 |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i> | 13,412,959 | 11,118,584 |
| SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY | | |
| Common stock, \$2.50 par value, 600 million shares authorized, 190.6 million shares issued in 2006 and 181.0 million shares issued in 2005 | 476,588 | 430,827 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 1,245,038 | 996,708 |
| Retained earnings | 71,596 | 138,529 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (34,607) | (42,285) |
| Treasury stock, 17.1 million shares in 2006 and 16.1 million shares in 2005, at cost | (260,922) | (240,808) |
| <i>Total Shareholders Equity</i> | 1,497,693 | 1,282,971 |
| <i>Total Liabilities and Shareholders Equity</i> | \$ 14,910,652 | \$ 12,401,555 |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents

FULTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (UNAUDITED)
(dollars in thousands, except per-share data)

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months Ended | |
|--|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | September 30 | | September 30 | |
| | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 |
| INTEREST INCOME | | | | |
| Loans, including fees | \$ 193,433 | \$ 135,320 | \$ 534,493 | \$ 373,748 |
| Investment securities: | | | | |
| Taxable | 25,323 | 18,863 | 71,426 | 55,301 |
| Tax-exempt | 3,773 | 3,213 | 10,849 | 8,905 |
| Dividends | 1,653 | 1,177 | 4,553 | 3,496 |
| Loans held for sale | 4,224 | 4,955 | 11,688 | 10,973 |
| Other interest income | 695 | 542 | 1,950 | 1,066 |
| <i>Total Interest Income</i> | 229,101 | 164,070 | 634,959 | 453,489 |
| INTEREST EXPENSE | | | | |
| Deposits | 67,041 | 38,480 | 176,227 | 97,392 |
| Short-term borrowings | 21,697 | 8,655 | 55,430 | 23,393 |
| Long-term debt | 14,439 | 10,450 | 39,484 | 28,048 |
| <i>Total Interest Expense</i> | 103,177 | 57,585 | 271,141 | 148,833 |
| <i>Net Interest Income</i> | 125,924 | 106,485 | 363,818 | 304,656 |
| PROVISION FOR LOAN LOSSES | 555 | 815 | 2,430 | 2,340 |
| <i>Net Interest Income After Provision for Loan Losses</i> | 125,369 | 105,670 | 361,388 | 302,316 |
| OTHER INCOME | | | | |
| Investment management and trust services | 8,887 | 8,730 | 27,975 | 26,715 |
| Service charges on deposit accounts | 11,345 | 10,488 | 32,484 | 29,780 |
| Other service charges and fees | 6,693 | 5,818 | 19,923 | 18,519 |
| Gains on sales of mortgage loans | 5,480 | 7,586 | 15,439 | 19,533 |
| Investment securities gains | 1,450 | 905 | 5,524 | 5,638 |
| Gain on sale of deposits | | | | 2,201 |
| Other | 3,057 | 2,636 | 8,176 | 7,947 |
| <i>Total Other Income</i> | 36,912 | 36,163 | 109,521 | 110,333 |
| OTHER EXPENSES | | | | |
| Salaries and employee benefits | 55,048 | 46,761 | 158,367 | 136,294 |
| Net occupancy expense | 9,260 | 7,459 | 26,856 | 21,506 |

Edgar Filing: FULTON FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|------------|
| Equipment expense | 3,703 | 3,203 | 10,791 | 9,161 |
| Data processing | 3,057 | 3,100 | 9,131 | 9,590 |
| Advertising | 2,934 | 1,995 | 8,214 | 6,244 |
| Intangible amortization | 2,025 | 1,510 | 5,883 | 3,857 |
| Other | 16,398 | 17,509 | 51,992 | 46,902 |
| <i>Total Other Expenses</i> | 92,425 | 81,537 | 271,234 | 233,554 |
| | | | | |
| <i>Income Before Income Taxes</i> | 69,856 | 60,296 | 199,675 | 179,095 |
| INCOME TAXES | 21,514 | 18,168 | 60,753 | 53,927 |
| | | | | |
| <i>Net Income</i> | \$ 48,342 | \$ 42,128 | \$ 138,922 | \$ 125,168 |
| | | | | |
| PER-SHARE DATA: | | | | |
| Net income (basic) | \$ 0.28 | \$ 0.26 | \$ 0.80 | \$ 0.76 |
| Net income (diluted) | 0.28 | 0.25 | 0.80 | 0.75 |
| Cash dividends | 0.1475 | 0.138 | 0.433 | 0.402 |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents

FULTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(UNAUDITED)
NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2006 AND 2005
(dollars in thousands)

| | Number of Shares Outstanding | Common Stock | Additional Paid-in Capital | Retained Earnings | Accumulated Other Com- prehensive (Loss) Income | Treasury Stock | Total |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------|--------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2005 | 164,868,000 | \$ 430,827 | \$ 996,708 | \$ 138,529 | \$ (42,285) | \$ (240,808) | \$ 1,282,971 |
| Comprehensive income: | | | | | | | |
| Net income | | | | 138,922 | | | 138,922 |
| Unrealized gain on securities (net of \$6.8 million tax effect) | | | | | 12,602 | | 12,602 |
| Unrealized loss on derivative financial instrument (net of \$719,000 tax effect) | | | | | (1,334) | | (1,334) |
| Less reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income (net of \$1.9 tax expense) | | | | | (3,590) | | (3,590) |
| <i>Total comprehensive income</i> | | | | | | | 146,600 |
| Stock dividend 5% | | 22,648 | 107,952 | (130,600) | | | |
| Stock issued, including related tax benefits | 1,062,000 | 2,590 | 5,575 | | | | 8,165 |
| Stock-based compensation awards | | | 1,195 | | | | 1,195 |
| Stock issued for acquisition of | 8,619,000 | 20,523 | 133,608 | | | | 154,131 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Columbia Bancorp Acquisition of treasury stock | (1,056,000) | | | | | (16,691) | (16,691) |
| Accelerated share repurchase settlement | | | | | | (3,423) | (3,423) |
| Cash dividends \$0.433 per share | | | | | (75,255) | | (75,255) |
| Balance at September 30, 2006 | 173,493,000 | \$ 476,588 | \$ 1,245,038 | \$ 71,596 | \$ (34,607) | \$ (260,922) | \$ 1,497,693 |
| Balance at December 31, 2004 | 165,007,500 | \$ 335,604 | \$ 1,018,403 | \$ 60,924 | \$ (10,133) | \$ (160,711) | \$ 1,244,087 |
| Comprehensive income: | | | | | | | |
| Net income | | | | 125,168 | | | 125,168 |
| Unrealized loss on securities (net of \$7.6 million tax effect) | | | | | | (14,015) | (14,015) |
| Less reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income (net of \$2.0 million tax expense) | | | | | | (3,664) | (3,664) |
| <i>Total comprehensive income</i> | | | | | | | 107,489 |
| Stock split paid in the form of a 25% stock dividend | | 84,046 | (84,114) | | | | (68) |
| Stock issued, including tax related benefits | 1,108,800 | 1,637 | 3,698 | | | 5,071 | 10,406 |
| Stock-based compensation awards | | | 618 | | | | 618 |
| Shares issued for acquisition of SVB Financial Services, Inc. | 3,934,350 | 9,368 | 57,242 | | | | 66,610 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|--|--|----------|--|----------|----------|
| Acquisition of treasury stock | (5,250,000) | | | | | (85,168) | (85,168) |
| Cash dividends \$0.402 per share | | | | (65,646) | | | (65,646) |

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Balance at September 30, 2005 | 164,800,650 | \$ 430,655 | \$ 995,847 | \$ 120,446 | \$ (27,812) | \$ (240,808) | \$ 1,278,328 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents

FULTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)
(in thousands)

| | Nine Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|
| | September 30 | |
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Net Income | \$ 138,922 | \$ 125,168 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Provision for loan losses | 2,430 | 2,340 |
| Depreciation and amortization of premises and equipment | 12,524 | 10,337 |
| Net amortization of investment security premiums | 2,861 | 3,879 |
| Investment securities gains | (5,524) | (5,638) |
| Net decrease (increase) in loans held for sale | 6,591 | (54,060) |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 5,883 | 3,857 |
| Stock-based compensation | 1,195 | 618 |
| Increase in accrued interest receivable | (10,984) | (4,593) |
| Increase in other assets | (21,615) | (4,925) |
| Increase in accrued interest payable | 17,479 | 10,319 |
| Decrease in other liabilities | (333) | (4,281) |
| Total adjustments | 10,507 | (42,147) |
| <i>Net cash provided by operating activities</i> | 149,429 | 83,021 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Proceeds from sales of securities available for sale | 133,355 | 128,310 |
| Proceeds from maturities of securities held to maturity | 5,576 | 4,041 |
| Proceeds from maturities of securities available for sale | 472,535 | 509,082 |
| Purchase of securities held to maturity | (529) | (4,398) |
| Purchase of securities available for sale | (790,634) | (590,940) |
| Decrease in short-term investments | 12,902 | 14,725 |
| Net increase in loans | (822,500) | (458,552) |
| Net cash paid for acquisitions | (104,891) | (3,877) |
| Net purchase of premises and equipment | (22,898) | (21,138) |
| <i>Net cash used in investing activities</i> | (1,117,084) | (422,747) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Net (decrease) increase in demand and savings deposits | (43,868) | 56,047 |
| Net increase in time deposits | 547,121 | 386,267 |
| Additions to long-term debt | 326,873 | 420,388 |
| Repayment of long-term debt | (158,134) | (231,267) |
| Increase (decrease) in short-term borrowings | 350,599 | (29,231) |
| Dividends paid | (72,432) | (62,749) |

| | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|
| Net proceeds from issuance of common stock | 8,165 | 10,406 |
| Acquisition of treasury stock | (20,114) | (85,168) |
| <i>Net cash provided by financing activities</i> | 938,210 | 464,693 |
| Net (Decrease) Increase in Cash and Due From Banks | (29,445) | 124,967 |
| Cash and Due From Banks at Beginning of Period | 368,043 | 278,065 |
| Cash and Due From Banks at End of Period | \$ 338,598 | \$ 403,032 |
| Supplemental Disclosures of Cash Flow Information | | |
| Cash paid during the period for: | | |
| Interest | \$ 253,755 | \$ 138,546 |
| Income taxes | 58,102 | 43,356 |
| <i>See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</i> | | |

Table of Contents**FULTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)****NOTE A Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements of Fulton Financial Corporation (the Corporation) have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles 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. Operating results for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2006 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2006.

NOTE B Net Income Per Share and Comprehensive Income

The Corporation's basic net income per share is calculated as net income divided by the weighted average number of shares outstanding. For diluted net income per share, net income is divided by the weighted average number of shares outstanding plus the incremental number of shares added as a result of converting common stock equivalents, calculated using the treasury stock method. The Corporation's common stock equivalents consist solely of outstanding stock options. Excluded from the calculation were 2.2 million anti-dilutive options for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006.

A reconciliation of the weighted average shares outstanding used to calculate basic net income per share and diluted net income per share follows:

| | Three months ended | | Nine months ended | |
|--|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | September 30 | | September 30 | |
| | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 |
| | | | | |
| | | (in thousands) | | |
| Weighted average shares outstanding (basic) | 173,439 | 164,656 | 172,595 | 164,034 |
| Impact of common stock equivalents | 1,951 | 1,955 | 2,094 | 2,015 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding (diluted) | 175,390 | 166,611 | 174,689 | 166,049 |

Total comprehensive income was \$80.6 million and \$146.6 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively. Total comprehensive income was \$33.5 million and \$107.5 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, respectively.

NOTE C Stock Dividend

The Corporation paid a 5% stock dividend on June 8, 2006 to shareholders of record on May 19, 2006. All share and per-share information has been restated to reflect the impact of this stock dividend.

NOTE D Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information

The Corporation does not have any operating segments which require disclosure of additional information. While the Corporation owned fifteen separate banks as of September 30, 2006, each engaged in similar activities and provided similar products and services. The Corporation's non-banking activities are immaterial and, therefore, separate information has not been disclosed.

Table of Contents**NOTE E Stock-Based Compensation**

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123R, Share-Based Payment (Statement 123R), requires that the fair value of equity awards to employees be recognized as compensation expense over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for such award. During the third quarter of 2005, the Corporation adopted Statement 123R using modified retrospective application, electing to restate all prior periods including all per-share amounts. The Corporation's equity awards consist of stock options and restricted stock granted under its Stock Option and Compensation Plans (Option Plans) and shares purchased by employees under its Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

The following table presents compensation expense and the related tax impacts for equity awards recognized in the consolidated income statements:

| | Three months ended | | Nine months ended | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| | September 30 | | September 30 | |
| | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 |
| | (in thousands) | | | |
| Compensation expense | \$ 509 | \$ 439 | \$ 1,195 | \$ 618 |
| Tax benefit | (76) | (99) | (195) | (208) |
| Net income effect | \$ 433 | \$ 340 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 410 |

Under the Option Plans, options are granted to key employees for terms of up to ten years at option prices equal to the fair market value of the Corporation's stock on the date of grant. Options are typically granted annually on July 31 and, prior to the July 1, 2005 grant, had been 100% vested immediately upon grant. For the July 1, 2006 and 2005 grant, a three-year cliff-vesting feature was added. Certain events, as specified in the Option Plans and agreements, would result in the acceleration of the vesting period. As of September 30, 2006, the Option Plans had 14.1 million shares reserved for the future grants through 2013. On July 1, 2006, the Corporation granted approximately 840,000 options under its Option Plans.

NOTE F Employee Benefit Plans

The Corporation maintains a defined benefit pension plan (Pension Plan) for certain employees. Contributions to the Pension Plan are actuarially determined and funded annually. Pension Plan assets are invested in money markets; fixed income securities, including corporate bonds, U.S. Treasury securities and common trust funds; and equity securities, including common stocks and common stock mutual funds. The Pension Plan has been closed to new participants, but existing participants continue to accrue benefits according to the terms of the plan. The Corporation contributed approximately \$4.1 million to the Pension Plan in September 2006.

The Corporation currently provides medical and life insurance benefits under a postretirement benefits plan (Postretirement Plan) to certain retired full-time employees who were employees of the Corporation prior to January 1, 1998. Other certain full-time employees may become eligible for these discretionary benefits if they reach retirement age while working for the Corporation. Benefits are based on a graduated scale for years of service after attaining the age of 40.

Table of Contents

The net periodic benefit cost for the Corporation's Pension Plan and Postretirement Plan, as determined by consulting actuaries, consisted of the following components for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30:

| | Pension Plan | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|--------------------------|----------|
| | Three months ended | | Nine months ended | |
| | September 30 | | September 30 | |
| | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 |
| | (in thousands) | | | |
| Service cost | \$ 607 | \$ 619 | \$ 1,822 | \$ 1,864 |
| Interest cost | 864 | 843 | 2,593 | 2,528 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (1,056) | (818) | (3,170) | (2,455) |
| Net amortization and deferral | 202 | 222 | 605 | 665 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$ 617 | \$ 866 | \$ 1,850 | \$ 2,602 |

| | Postretirement Plan | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| | Three months | | Nine months ended | |
| | ended | | September 30 | |
| | September 30 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 |
| | (in thousands) | | | |
| Service cost | \$ 208 | \$ 88 | \$ 498 | \$ 265 |
| Interest cost | 269 | 115 | 643 | 346 |
| Expected return on plan assets | | | (2) | (1) |
| Net amortization and deferral | (116) | (56) | (278) | (168) |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$ 361 | \$ 147 | \$ 861 | \$ 442 |

NOTE G Acquisitions

On February 1, 2006, the Corporation completed its acquisition of Columbia Bancorp (Columbia) of Columbia, Maryland. Columbia was a \$1.3 billion bank holding company whose primary subsidiary was The Columbia Bank, which operates 20 full-service community-banking offices and five retirement community offices in Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's and Baltimore Counties and Baltimore City.

Under the terms of the merger agreement, each of the approximately 6.9 million shares of Columbia's common stock was acquired by the Corporation based on a cash election merger structure. Each Columbia shareholder elected to receive 100% of the merger consideration in stock, 100% in cash, or a combination of stock and cash.

As a result of Columbia shareholder elections, approximately 3.5 million of the Columbia shares outstanding on the acquisition date were converted into shares of the Corporation's common stock, based upon a fixed exchange ratio of 2.441 shares of Corporation stock for each share of Columbia stock. The remaining 3.4 million shares of Columbia stock were purchased for \$42.48 per share. In addition, each of the options to acquire Columbia's stock was converted into options to purchase the Corporation's stock or was settled in cash, based on the election of each option holder and the terms of the merger agreement. The total purchase price was approximately \$305.4 million, including \$154.1 million in stock issued and stock options assumed, \$149.4 million of Columbia stock purchased and options settled for cash and \$1.9 million for other direct acquisition costs. The purchase price for shares issued was determined based on the value of the Corporation's stock on the date when the number of shares was fixed and determinable.

As a result of the acquisition, Columbia was merged into the Corporation, and The Columbia Bank became a wholly owned subsidiary. The acquisition was accounted for using purchase accounting, which requires the allocation of the

total purchase price to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed, based on their respective fair values at the acquisition date, with any remaining purchase price being recorded as goodwill. Resulting

9

Table of Contents

goodwill balances are then subject to an impairment review on at least an annual basis. The results of Columbia's operations are included in the Corporation's financial statements prospectively from the February 1, 2006 acquisition date.

The following is a summary of the purchase price allocation based on estimated fair values on the acquisition date (in thousands):

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Cash and due from banks | \$ 46,407 |
| Other earning assets | 16,854 |
| Investment securities available for sale | 113,761 |
| Loans, net of allowance | 1,052,684 |
| Premises and equipment | 7,775 |
| Core deposit intangible asset | 14,689 |
| Trade name intangible asset | 964 |
| Goodwill | 202,060 |
| Other assets | 92,859 |
| Total assets acquired | 1,548,053 |
| Deposits | 968,936 |
| Short-term borrowings | 184,083 |
| Long-term debt | 80,136 |
| Other liabilities | 9,495 |
| Total liabilities assumed | 1,242,650 |
| Net assets acquired | \$ 305,403 |

On July 1, 2005, the Corporation completed its acquisition of SVB Financial Services, Inc. (SVB). SVB was a \$530 million bank holding company whose primary subsidiary was Somerset Valley Bank, which operates 13 community-banking offices in Somerset, Hunterdon and Middlesex Counties in New Jersey. The total purchase price was \$90.4 million, including \$66.6 million in stock issued and options assumed, \$22.4 million in SVB stock purchased and options settled for cash and \$1.4 million in other direct acquisition costs.

The following table summarizes unaudited pro-forma information assuming the acquisitions of Columbia and SVB had occurred on January 1, 2005. This pro-forma information includes certain adjustments, including amortization related to fair value adjustments recorded in purchase accounting (in thousands, except per-share information):

| | Three months ended | | Nine months ended | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| | September 30 | | September 30 | |
| | 2006 (1) | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 |
| Net interest income | \$ 125,924 | \$ 121,548 | \$ 369,316 | \$ 355,615 |
| Other income | 36,912 | 37,660 | 108,788 | 115,618 |
| Net income | 48,342 | 46,253 | 139,729 | 138,157 |
| Per Share: | | | | |
| Net income (basic) | \$ 0.28 | \$ 0.27 | \$ 0.80 | \$ 0.78 |
| Net income (diluted) | 0.28 | 0.26 | 0.79 | 0.77 |

(1)

The acquisitions of Columbia and SVB had no pro-forma impact on the reported figures for the three months ended September 30, 2006.

NOTE H Derivative Financial Instruments

As of September 30, 2006, interest rate swaps with a notional amount of \$300.0 million were used to hedge certain long-term fixed rate certificates of deposit. The terms of the certificates of deposit and the interest rate

Table of Contents

swaps are similar and were committed to simultaneously. Under the terms of the swap agreements, the Corporation is the fixed rate receiver and the floating rate payer (generally tied to the three-month London Interbank Offering Rate, or LIBOR, a common index used for setting rates between financial institutions). The interest rate swaps are classified as fair value hedges and both the interest rate swaps and the certificates of deposit are recorded at fair value, with changes in the fair values during the period recorded as income or expense. For interest rate swaps accounted for as a fair value hedge, ineffectiveness is the difference between the changes in the fair value of the interest rate swap and the hedged item, in this case the certificates of deposit.

The Corporation's analysis of hedge effectiveness indicated they were highly effective as of September 30, 2006. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, net gains of \$380,000 and \$225,000, respectively, were recorded in other expense, representing the net impact of the change in fair values of the interest rate swaps and the certificates of deposit.

The Corporation entered into a forward-starting interest rate swap with a notional amount of \$150.0 million in October 2005 in anticipation of the issuance of \$150.0 million of trust preferred securities in January 2006. This was accounted for as a cash flow hedge as it hedged the variability of interest payments attributable to changes in interest rates on the forecasted issuance of fixed-rate debt. As of December 31, 2005, \$2.2 million had been recorded as an other comprehensive loss representing the estimated fair value of the swap on that date, net of a \$1.2 million tax effect. The Corporation settled this derivative on its contractual maturity date in January 2006 with a total payment of \$5.5 million to the counterparty that resulted in an additional \$1.4 million charge to other comprehensive loss (net of \$751,000 tax effect) during the first quarter of 2006. The total amount recorded in other comprehensive loss is being amortized to interest expense over the life of the related securities using the effective interest method. The total amount of net losses in accumulated other comprehensive income that will be reclassified into earnings during the next twelve months is expected to be approximately \$185,000.

NOTE I Commitments and Contingencies

The Corporation is a party to financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk in the normal course of business to meet the financing needs of its customers. Those financial instruments include commitments to extend credit and letters of credit, which involve, to varying degrees, elements of credit and interest rate risk in excess of the amounts recognized in the Corporation's Consolidated Balance Sheets. Exposure to credit loss in the event of nonperformance by the other party to the financial instrument for commitments to extend credit and letters of credit is represented by the outstanding amount of those instruments.

The outstanding amounts of commitments to extend credit and letters of credit were as follows:

| | September 30 | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | (in thousands) | |
| Commitments to extend credit | 4,420,948 | 3,556,674 |
| Standby letters of credit | 725,656 | 548,713 |
| Commercial letters of credit | 34,307 | 21,471 |

From time to time, the Corporation and its subsidiary banks may be defendants in legal proceedings relating to the conduct of their banking business. Most of such legal proceedings are a normal part of the banking business and, in management's opinion, the financial position and results of operations and cash flows of the Corporation would not be affected materially by the outcome of such legal proceedings.

NOTE J Stock Repurchases

In 2005, the Corporation purchased 4.5 million shares of its common stock from an investment bank at a total cost of \$73.6 million under an Accelerated Share Repurchase program (ASR), which allowed the shares to

Table of Contents

be purchased immediately rather than over time. The investment bank, in turn, repurchased shares on the open market over a period that was determined by the average daily trading volume of the Corporation's shares, among other factors. The Corporation completed the ASR in February 2006 and settled its position with the investment bank by paying \$3.4 million, representing the difference between the initial payment and the actual total price of the shares repurchased.

In March 2006, the Corporation's Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase plan for 2.1 million shares through December 31, 2006. Repurchases under this plan will occur through open market acquisitions. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, 1.1 million shares were repurchased under this plan. There were no shares repurchased under this plan for the three months ended September 30, 2006.

NOTE K Long-Term Debt

In January 2006, the Corporation purchased all of the common stock of a subsidiary trust, Fulton Capital Trust I, which was formed for the purpose of issuing \$150.0 million of trust preferred securities at a fixed rate of 6.29% and an effective rate of approximately 6.50% as a result of issuance costs and the settlement cost of the forward-starting interest rate swap. In connection with this transaction, \$154.6 million of junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures were issued to the trust. These debentures carry the same rate and mature on February 1, 2036.

NOTE L New Accounting Standards

In February 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 155, Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments—an amendment of FASB Statements No. 133 and 140 (Statement 155). Statement 155 amends the guidance in FASB Statements No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, and No. 140, Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities. Statement 155 allows financial instruments that have embedded derivatives to be accounted for as a whole, thereby eliminating the need to bifurcate the derivative from its host, if the holder elects to account for the whole instrument on a fair value basis. Statement 155 is effective for all financial instruments acquired, issued, or subject to a remeasurement date after the beginning of a company's first fiscal year that begins after September 15, 2006, or January 1, 2007 for the Corporation. The Corporation does not expect Statement 155 to materially impact the Corporation's consolidated financial statements.

In March 2006, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 156, Accounting for Servicing of Financial Assets—an amendment of FASB Statement No. 140 (Statement 156). Statement 156 requires recognition of a servicing asset or liability at fair value each time an obligation is undertaken to service a financial asset by entering into a servicing contract. Statement 156 also provides guidance on subsequent measurement methods for each class of separately recognized servicing assets and liabilities and specifies financial statement presentation and disclosure requirements. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after September 15, 2006, or January 1, 2007 for the Corporation. The Corporation is currently evaluating the impact of Statement 156 on the consolidated financial statements.

In April 2006, the FASB issued Staff Position FIN 46(R)-6, Determining the Variability to Be Considered in Applying FASB Interpretation No. 46(R) (Staff Position FIN 46(R)-6). This staff position addresses how an entity should determine the variability to be considered in applying FASB Interpretation No. FIN 46(R) (FIN 46). The variability that is to be considered in applying FIN 46 affects the determination of (a) whether the entity is a variable interest entity (VIE), (b) which interests are variable interests in the entity and (c) which party, if any, is the primary beneficiary of the VIE. The requirements prescribed by this staff position are to be applied prospectively for all new arrangements at the commencement of the first reporting period that begins after June 15, 2006, or July 1, 2006 for the Corporation. The new requirements need not be applied to entities that have previously been analyzed under FIN 46 unless a reconsideration event occurs. The staff position did not impact the Corporation's consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

In June 2006, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* (FIN 48). The interpretation clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*. Specifically, the interpretation prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. This interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006, or January 1, 2007 for the Corporation. The Corporation is currently evaluating the impact of FIN 48 on the consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 108 (Topic 1N), *Correcting the Effects of Prior Year Misstatements when Quantifying Misstatements in Current Year Financial Statements* (SAB No. 108). SAB No. 108 provides interpretations of the SEC's views regarding the process of quantifying financial statement misstatements. Specifically, the interpretation requires registrants to quantify misstatements using both a balance-sheet and income-statement approach and to evaluate whether either approach results in quantifying an error that is material in light of relevant quantitative and qualitative factors. This SEC interpretation is effective for all quantifications of financial statement misstatements occurring for fiscal periods ending after November 15, 2006, or December 31, 2006 for the Corporation. The interpretation is not expected to materially impact the Corporation's consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standard Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, *Fair Value Measurement* (Statement 157). Statement 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and expands disclosure requirements for fair value measurements. Statement 157 does not require any new fair value measurements and is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, or January 1, 2008 for the Corporation. The Corporation is currently evaluating the impact of Statement 157 on the consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 158, *Employers' Accounting for Defined Pension and Other Postretirement Plans* (Statement 158). Statement 158 requires employers to recognize the overfunded or underfunded status of defined benefit pension and postretirement plans as an asset or liability in its balance sheet and to recognize changes in that funded status in the year in which changes occur through comprehensive income, in addition to expanded disclosure requirements. The standard requires employers to measure defined benefit plan assets and obligations as of the date of the employer's fiscal year-end balance sheet, for fiscal years after December 15, 2008, or December 31, 2008 for the Corporation. All other requirements of the standard are effective for employers with defined benefit pension or postretirement plans that issue publicly traded equity securities, for all fiscal years ending after December 15, 2006, or December 31, 2006 for the Corporation. The impact of Statement 158 on the Corporation's consolidated balance sheets as of September 30, 2006, based upon the most recent actuarial measurements of the Pension and Postretirement Plans, would result in a decrease to assets of \$400,000 additional liabilities of \$10.6 million, representing the under funded status of the Corporation's Pension and Postretirement Plans, and a decrease to equity, in the form of additional accumulated other comprehensive income, of \$10.2 million.

In September 2006, the FASB ratified Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) 06-4, *Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements* (EITF 06-4). EITF 06-4 addresses accounting for endorsement split-dollar life insurance arrangements that provide a benefit to an employee that extends to postretirement periods. The EITF 06-4 would require that the postretirement benefit aspects of an endorsement-type split-dollar life insurance arrangement be recognized as a liability by the employer and that the obligation is not settled upon entering into an insurance arrangement. EITF 06-4 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2007, or January 1, 2008 for the Corporation. The Corporation is currently evaluating the impact of EITF 06-4 on the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

NOTE M Reclassifications

Certain amounts in the 2005 consolidated financial statements and notes have been reclassified to conform to the 2006 presentation.

Table of Contents

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (Management's Discussion) concerns Fulton Financial Corporation (the Corporation), a financial holding company incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1982, and its wholly owned subsidiaries. This discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes presented in this report.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The Corporation has made, and may continue to make, certain forward-looking statements with respect to its acquisition and growth strategies, management of net interest income and margin, the ability to realize gains on equity investments, allowance and provision for loan losses, expected levels of certain non-interest expenses and the liquidity position of the Corporation and Parent Company. The Corporation cautions that these forward-looking statements are subject to various assumptions, risks and uncertainties. Because of the possibility of changes in these assumptions, risks and uncertainties, actual results could differ materially from forward-looking statements.

In addition to the factors identified herein, the following risk factors could cause actual results to differ materially from such forward-looking statements:

Changes in interest rates may have an adverse effect on the Corporation's profitability.

Changes in economic conditions and the composition of the Corporation's loan portfolios could lead to higher loan charge-offs or an increase in the allowance for loan losses and may reduce the Corporation's income.

Fluctuations in the value of the Corporation's equity portfolio, or assets under management by the Corporation's trust and investment management services, could have a material impact on the Corporation's results of operations.

If the Corporation is unable to acquire additional banks on favorable terms or if it fails to successfully integrate or improve the operations of acquired banks, the Corporation may be unable to execute its growth strategies.

If the goodwill that the Corporation has recorded in connection with its acquisitions becomes impaired, it could have a negative impact on the Corporation's profitability.

The competition the Corporation faces is increasing and may reduce the Corporation's customer base and negatively impact the Corporation's results of operations.

The supervision and regulation by various regulatory authorities to which the Corporation is subject can be a competitive disadvantage.

The Corporation's forward-looking statements are relevant only as of the date on which such statements are made. By making any forward-looking statements, the Corporation assumes no duty to update them to reflect new, changing or unanticipated events or circumstances.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Overview

The Corporation currently derives the majority of its earnings from traditional banking activities, with net interest income, or the difference between interest income earned on loans and investments and interest paid on deposits and borrowings, accounting for approximately 78% of revenues for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006. Growth in net interest income is dependent upon balance sheet growth or increasing the net interest margin, which is net interest income as a percentage of average interest-

Table of Contents

earning assets. The Corporation also generates revenue through fees earned on the various services and products offered to its customers and through sales of assets, such as loans, investments, or properties. Offsetting these revenue sources are provisions for credit losses on loans, other operating expenses and income taxes.

The Corporation's net income for the third quarter of 2006 increased \$6.2 million, or 14.8%, from \$42.1 million in 2005 to \$48.3 million in 2006. Net income for the first nine months of 2006 increased \$13.8 million, or 11.0%, from \$125.2 million in 2005 to \$138.9 million in 2006. Diluted net income per share for the third quarter increased \$0.03, or 12.0%, from \$0.25 in 2005 to \$0.28 in 2006. For the first nine months of 2006, diluted net income per share increased \$0.05 per share, or 6.7%, from \$0.75 in 2005 to \$0.80 in 2006. The Corporation realized annualized returns on average assets of 1.31% and average equity of 13.26% during the third quarter of 2006. For the first nine months of 2006, the Corporation realized annualized returns on average assets of 1.32% and average equity of 13.04%. The annualized return on average tangible equity, which is net income, as adjusted for intangible amortization (net of tax), divided by average shareholders' equity, excluding goodwill and intangible assets, was 25.14% and 24.34% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Corporation experienced declines in net interest margin of six and five basis points, respectively. Significant increases in loans and investments have been funded by higher cost certificates of deposits and short-term borrowings, as opposed to lower cost core demand and savings accounts. Net interest income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 included interest recoveries of \$3.3 million and \$4.6 million, respectively. Included in these totals was \$2.3 million of interest related to one customer account. If loan demand continues to outpace the growth of core demand and savings accounts based upon continuation of the current interest rate environment and price sensitivity of customers, then further compression of the net interest margin may occur.

The increase in net income compared to the third quarter of 2005 resulted from a \$19.4 million, or 18.3%, increase in net interest income due primarily to external growth through acquisitions, partially offset by the decline in net interest margin. Also contributing to the increase in net income was a slight increase in other income of \$749,000, or 2.1%, offset by a \$10.9 million, or 13.4%, increase in other expenses and a \$3.3 million, or 18.4%, increase in income taxes. For the first nine months of 2006, the increase in net income compared to the first nine months of 2005 resulted from a \$59.2 million, or 19.4%, increase in net interest income, also due primarily to acquisitions, offset by the decline in net interest margin and an increase in other expenses of \$37.7 million, or 16.1%. The increase in earnings was further offset by a \$6.8 million, or 12.7%, increase in income taxes and an \$812,000 decrease in other income.

The following summarizes some of the more significant factors that influenced the Corporation's results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006.

Interest Rates Changes in the interest rate environment generally impact both the Corporation's net interest income and certain components of its non-interest income. The interest rate environment includes both the level of rates and the shape of the U. S. Treasury yield curve, which is a plot of the yields on treasury issues over various maturity periods. Typically, the shape of the yield curve is upward sloping, with longer-term rates exceeding short-term rates. However, during 2006, the yield curve has been relatively flat, with minimal differences between long and short-term rates, resulting in a negative impact to the Corporation's net interest income.

Floating rate loans, short-term borrowings and savings and time deposit rates are generally influenced by short-term rates. The Federal Reserve Board (FRB) raised the Federal funds rate six times since September 30, 2005, for a total increase of 150 basis points (from 3.75% to 5.25%). The Corporation's prime lending rate had a corresponding increase, from 6.75% to 8.25%, resulting in an increase in the

Table of Contents

rates on floating rate loans as well as the rates on new fixed-rate loans. More significantly, the increase in short-term rates also resulted in increased funding costs, with short-term borrowings immediately repricing to higher rates and deposit rates although more discretionary increasing due to competitive pressures. Additionally, as rates have increased, customers have begun to shift funds from lower rate core demand and savings accounts to fixed rate certificates of deposit in order to lock into higher rates.

With respect to longer-term rates, the 10-year treasury yield, which is a common benchmark for evaluating residential mortgage rates, increased to 4.64% at September 30, 2006, as compared to 4.34% at September 30, 2005. Higher mortgage rates have resulted in slower refinance activity and origination volumes and, therefore, lower total net gains for the Corporation on fixed-rate residential mortgages, which are generally sold in the secondary market. Note that while the absolute longer-term rates have increased, the 30 basis point increase in the 10-year treasury yield is significantly less than the 150 basis point increase in short term rates, resulting in a flattening of the yield curve. The Corporation manages its risk associated with changes in interest rates through the techniques described in the Market Risk section of Management's Discussion.

Acquisitions In February 2006, the Corporation acquired Columbia Bancorp (Columbia), of Columbia, Maryland, a \$1.3 billion bank holding company whose primary subsidiary was The Columbia Bank. Results for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006 in comparison to 2005 were impacted by this acquisition, as documented in the appropriate sections of Management's Discussion.

In July 2005, the Corporation acquired SVB Financial Services, Inc. (SVB) of Somerville, New Jersey, a \$530 million bank holding company whose primary subsidiary was Somerset Valley Bank. Results for the nine months ended 2006 in comparison to 2005, in addition to being impacted by the Columbia acquisition, were also impacted by the SVB acquisition, as documented in the appropriate sections of Management's Discussion.

Acquisitions have long been a supplement to the Corporation's internal growth. These recent acquisitions provide the opportunity for additional growth, as they have allowed the Corporation's existing products and services to be sold in new markets. The Corporation's acquisition strategy focuses on high growth areas with strong market demographics and targets organizations that have a comparable corporate culture, strong performance and sound asset quality, among other factors. Under the Corporation's super-community banking philosophy, acquired organizations generally retain their status as separate legal entities, unless consolidation with an existing subsidiary bank is practical. Back office functions are generally consolidated to maximize efficiencies.

Merger and acquisition activity in the financial services industry has been very competitive in recent years, as evidenced by the prices paid for certain acquisitions. While the Corporation has been an active acquirer, management is committed to basing its pricing on rational economic models. Management will continue to focus on generating growth in the most cost-effective manner.

Merger and acquisition activity has also impacted the Corporation's capital and liquidity. In order to complete acquisitions, the Corporation implemented strategies to maintain appropriate levels of capital and to provide necessary cash resources. In January 2006, the Corporation issued \$154.6 million of junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures to fund the Columbia acquisition. See additional information in the Liquidity section of Management's Discussion.

Deposits and Borrowings The Corporation's interest-bearing liabilities increased from 2005 to 2006 through a combination of acquisitions and efforts to fund loan growth and investment purchases.

During the third quarter of 2006, the Corporation experienced a shift from lower cost interest-bearing demand and savings deposit accounts (36.4% of total interest-bearing liabilities in 2006, compared to 41.1% in 2005) to higher cost certificates of deposit and short-term borrowings (53.8% in 2006, compared

Table of Contents

to 48.4% in 2005). For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, a similar shift in the composition of interest-bearing liabilities from interest-bearing demand and savings deposit accounts (37.6% of total interest-bearing liabilities in 2006, compared to 40.9% in 2005) to certificates of deposit and short-term borrowings (52.8% in 2006, compared to 49.5% in 2005) occurred. The shift to higher cost liabilities has resulted in a decline in net interest margin.

Earning Assets The Corporation's interest-earning assets increased from 2005 to 2006 through a combination of acquisitions and internal loan growth.

During the third quarter of 2006, the Corporation experienced a slight shift in its composition of interest-earning assets from investments (21.8% of total average interest-earning assets in 2006, compared to 22.9% in 2005) to loans (76.1% in 2006, compared to 73.7% in 2005). For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, a similar shift in the composition of interest-earning assets from investments (22.1% in 2006, compared to 23.3% in 2005) to loans (75.8% in 2006, compared to 73.9% in 2005) occurred. The movement to higher-yielding loans has mitigated some of the factors that have had a negative effect on the Corporation's net interest income and net interest margin. Slower growth in loans could result in a future shift in the composition of interest-earning assets from loans to investments.

Asset Quality Asset quality refers to the underlying credit characteristics of borrowers and the likelihood that defaults on contractual payments will result in charge-offs of account balances. Asset quality is influenced by economic conditions and other factors, but can be managed through conservative underwriting and sound collection policies and procedures.

The Corporation continued to maintain excellent asset quality throughout the first nine months of 2006, attributable to its credit culture and underwriting policies. The Corporation experienced annualized net recoveries to average loans of 0.01% in the third quarter of 2006 in comparison to annualized net charge-offs of 0.02% in the third quarter of 2005. Annualized net charge-offs to average loans improved from 0.02% for the nine months ended 2005 to 0.01% for the nine months ended September 30, 2006.

While overall asset quality has remained strong, deterioration in quality of one or several significant accounts could have a detrimental impact and result in losses that may not be foreseeable based on current information. In addition, rising interest rates could increase the total payments of borrowers and could have a negative impact on the ability of some to pay according to the terms of their loans. Finally, decreases in the values of underlying collateral as a result of market or economic conditions could affect asset quality.

Equity Markets As noted in the Market Risk section of Management's Discussion, equity valuations can have an impact on the Corporation's financial performance. In particular, bank stocks account for a significant portion of the Corporation's equity investment portfolio. Historically, gains on sales of these equities have been a recurring component of the Corporation's earnings. Declines in bank stock portfolio values could have a detrimental impact on the Corporation's ability to recognize gains in the future.

Table of Contents

Quarter Ended September 30, 2006 versus Quarter Ended September 30, 2005

Results for the third quarter of 2006 compared to the results of the third quarter of 2005 were impacted by the February 2006 acquisition of Columbia, whose results are included in 2006 amounts, but not in the 2005 amounts.

Net Interest Income

Net interest income increased \$19.4 million, or 18.3%, to \$125.9 million in 2006 from \$106.5 million in 2005. The increase was due to average balance growth, with total interest-earning assets increasing 20.3%, offset by a lower net interest margin. The average fully taxable-equivalent (FTE) yield on interest-earning assets increased 93 basis points (a 15.6% increase) over 2005 while the cost of interest-bearing liabilities increased 115 basis points (a 46.0% increase). Net interest margin decreased six basis points due to the more pronounced increase in the costs of interest-bearing liabilities.

Table of Contents

The following table provides a comparative average balance sheet and net interest income analysis for the third quarter of 2006 as compared to the same period in 2005. Interest income and yields are presented on an FTE basis, using a 35% Federal tax rate. The discussion following this table is based on these FTE amounts. All dollar amounts are in thousands.

| | Three months ended September 30 | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| | 2006 | | | 2005 | | |
| | Average Balance | Interest | Yield/ Rate | Average Balance | Interest | Yield/ Rate |
| ASSETS | | | | | | |
| Interest-earning assets: | | | | | | |
| Loans and leases (1) | \$ 10,167,362 | \$ 194,379 | 7.59% | \$ 8,186,974 | \$ 136,143 | 6.60% |
| Taxable investment securities (2) | 2,309,644 | 25,323 | 4.39 | 2,016,879 | 18,863 | 3.74 |
| Tax-exempt investment securities (2) | 449,181 | 5,496 | 4.89 | 387,233 | 4,761 | 4.92 |
| Equity securities (2) | 155,894 | 1,834 | 4.69 | 139,097 | 1,369 | 3.92 |
| Total investment securities | 2,914,719 | 32,653 | 4.48 | 2,543,209 | 24,993 | 3.93 |
| Loans held for sale | 227,038 | 4,224 | 7.44 | 314,145 | 4,955 | 6.31 |
| Other interest-earning assets | 54,424 | 695 | 5.03 | 62,406 | 542 | 3.43 |
| Total interest-earning assets | 13,363,543 | 231,951 | 6.90% | 11,106,734 | 166,633 | 5.97% |
| Noninterest-earning assets: | | | | | | |
| Cash and due from banks | 329,482 | | | 370,531 | | |
| Premises and equipment | 187,876 | | | 164,447 | | |
| Other assets | 859,800 | | | 637,682 | | |
| Less: Allowance for loan losses | (107,090) | | | (94,527) | | |
| <i>Total Assets</i> | \$ 14,633,611 | | | \$ 12,184,867 | | |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | | | | | | |
| Interest-bearing liabilities: | | | | | | |
| Demand deposits | \$ 1,689,386 | \$ 6,529 | 1.53% | \$ 1,586,338 | \$ 4,169 | 1.04% |
| Savings deposits | 2,385,811 | 14,257 | 2.37 | 2,162,030 | 7,640 | 1.40 |
| Time deposits | 4,294,731 | 46,255 | 4.27 | 3,301,661 | 26,671 | 3.20 |
| Total interest-bearing deposits | 8,369,928 | 67,041 | 3.18 | 7,050,029 | 38,480 | 2.17 |
| Short-term borrowings | 1,730,970 | 21,697 | 4.92 | 1,115,122 | 8,655 | 3.05 |
| Long-term debt | 1,093,815 | 14,439 | 5.24 | 955,096 | 10,450 | 4.34 |
| Total interest-bearing liabilities | 11,194,713 | 103,177 | 3.65% | 9,120,247 | 57,585 | 2.50% |

| | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------|---------------|-------|
| Noninterest-bearing liabilities: | | | | |
| Demand deposits | 1,811,264 | | 1,651,787 | |
| Other | 181,322 | | 133,704 | |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i> | 13,187,299 | | 10,905,738 | |
| Shareholders equity | 1,446,312 | | 1,279,129 | |
| <i>Total Liabilities and Shareholders Equity</i> | \$ 14,633,611 | | \$ 12,184,867 | |
| Net interest income/net interest margin (FTE) | 128,774 | 3.85% | 109,048 | 3.91% |
| Tax equivalent adjustment | (2,850) | | (2,563) | |
| Net interest income | \$ 125,924 | | \$ 106,485 | |

(1) Includes non-performing loans.

(2) Balances include amortized historical cost for available for sale securities. The related unrealized holding gains (losses) are included in other assets.

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes the changes in FTE interest income and expense due to changes in average balances (volume) and changes in rates:

| | 2006 vs. 2005 | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Increase (decrease) due | | |
| | To change in | | Net |
| | Volume | Rate | |
| | (in thousands) | | |
| Interest income on: | | | |
| Loans and leases | \$ 35,839 | \$ 22,397 | \$ 58,236 |
| Taxable investment securities | 2,942 | 3,518 | 6,460 |
| Tax-exempt investment securities | 758 | (23) | 735 |
| Equity securities | 178 | 287 | 465 |
| Loans held for sale | (1,533) | 802 | (731) |
| Other interest-earning assets | (75) | 228 | 153 |
| <i>Total interest income</i> | \$ 38,109 | \$ 27,209 | \$ 65,318 |
| Interest expense on: | | | |
| Demand deposits | \$ 286 | \$ 2,074 | \$ 2,360 |
| Savings deposits | 862 | 5,755 | 6,617 |
| Time deposits | 9,291 | 10,293 | 19,584 |
| Short-term borrowings | 6,173 | 6,869 | 13,042 |
| Long-term debt | 1,647 | 2,342 | 3,989 |
| <i>Total interest expense</i> | \$ 18,259 | \$ 27,333 | \$ 45,592 |

Interest income increased \$65.3 million, or 39.2%, due to both increases in average balances of interest-earning assets and due to increases in rates. Interest income increased \$38.1 million as a result of a \$2.3 billion, or 20.3%, increase in average balances, while an increase of \$27.2 million was realized from the 93 basis point increase in rates.

The increase in average interest-earning assets was primarily due to loan growth. Average loans increased \$2.0 billion, or 24.2%. The following summarizes the growth in average loans, by type:

| | Three months ended | | Increase | |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | September 30 | | \$ | % |
| | 2006 | 2005 | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Commercial industrial and financial | \$ 2,587,869 | \$ 2,046,919 | \$ 540,950 | 26.4% |
| Commercial agricultural | 337,660 | 323,216 | 14,444 | 4.5 |
| Real estate commercial mortgage | 3,113,086 | 2,725,748 | 387,338 | 14.2 |
| Real estate residential mortgage and home equity | 2,108,792 | 1,751,744 | 357,048 | 20.4 |
| Real estate construction | 1,412,678 | 756,102 | 656,576 | 86.8 |
| Consumer | 527,915 | 515,327 | 12,588 | 2.4 |
| Leasing and other | 79,362 | 67,918 | 11,444 | 16.8 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 10,167,362 | \$ 8,186,974 | \$ 1,980,388 | 24.2% |

Table of Contents

The acquisition of Columbia contributed approximately \$1.1 billion to the increase in average balances. The following table presents the average balance impact of this acquisition, by type:

| | Three months ended | |
|--|---------------------------|-------------|
| | September 30 | |
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | (in thousands) | |
| Commercial industrial and financial | \$ 309,528 | \$ |
| Real estate commercial mortgage | 120,759 | |
| Real estate residential mortgage and home equity | 228,255 | |
| Real estate construction | 448,806 | |
| Consumer | 2,932 | |
| Leasing and other | 1,610 | |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 1,111,890 | \$ |

The following table presents the growth in average loans, by type, excluding the average balances contributed by the acquisition of Columbia:

| | Three months ended | | Increase | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|
| | September 30 | | \$ | % |
| | 2006 | 2005 | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Commercial industrial and financial | \$ 2,278,341 | \$ 2,046,919 | \$ 231,422 | 11.3% |
| Commercial agricultural | 337,660 | 323,216 | 14,444 | 4.5 |
| Real estate commercial mortgage | 2,992,327 | 2,725,748 | 266,579 | 9.8 |
| Real estate residential mortgage and home equity | 1,880,537 | 1,751,744 | 128,793 | 7.4 |
| Real estate construction | 963,872 | 756,102 | 207,770 | 27.5 |
| Consumer | 524,983 | 515,327 | 9,656 | 1.9 |
| Leasing and other | 77,752 | 67,918 | 9,834 | 14.5 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 9,055,472 | \$ 8,186,974 | \$ 868,498 | 10.6% |

Excluding the impact of the Columbia acquisition, loan growth was particularly strong in the commercial mortgage, commercial and construction categories, which together increased \$705.8 million, or 12.8%. Additional growth in loans was due to residential mortgage and home equity loans increasing \$128.8 million, or 7.4%, primarily from increases in home equity loans.

The average yield on loans during the third quarter of 2006 was 7.59%, a 99 basis point, or 15.0%, increase over 2005. This mainly reflects the impact of floating and adjustable rate loans, which reprice to higher rates when interest rates rise, as they have over the past twelve months.

Average investment securities increased \$371.5 million, or 14.6%. Excluding the impact of the Columbia acquisition, this increase was \$162.2 million, or 6.4%. In the third quarter, the Corporation pre-purchased approximately \$250 million of investment securities, funded by a combination of short and longer-term borrowings, which are expected to be repaid with maturities of investments over the next six months. The average yield on investment securities increased 55 basis points from 3.93% in 2005 to 4.48% in 2006.

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes the growth in average deposits, by type:

| | Three months ended | | Increase | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------|
| | September 30 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | | | | |
| | | (dollars in thousands) | | |
| Noninterest-bearing demand | \$ 1,811,264 | \$ 1,651,787 | \$ 159,477 | 9.7% |
| Interest-bearing demand | 1,689,386 | 1,586,338 | 103,048 | 6.5 |
| Savings | 2,385,811 | 2,162,030 | 223,781 | 10.4 |
| Time deposits | 4,294,731 | 3,301,661 | 993,070 | 30.1 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 10,181,192 | \$ 8,701,816 | \$ 1,479,376 | 17.0% |

The acquisition of Columbia accounted for approximately \$1.0 billion of the increase in average balances. The following table presents the average balance impact of this acquisition, by type:

| | Three months ended | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| | September 30 2006 | 2005 |
| | | |
| | | (in thousands) |
| Noninterest-bearing demand | \$ 243,232 | \$ |
| Interest-bearing demand | 75,836 | |
| Savings | 160,906 | |
| Time deposits | 526,676 | |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 1,006,650 | \$ |

The following table presents the growth in average deposits, by type, excluding the contribution of the Columbia acquisition:

| | Three months ended | | Increase (decrease) | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| | September 30 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | | | | |
| | | (dollars in thousands) | | |
| Noninterest-bearing demand | \$ 1,568,032 | \$ 1,651,787 | \$ (83,755) | (5.1)% |
| Interest-bearing demand | 1,613,550 | 1,586,338 | 27,212 | 1.7 |
| Savings | 2,224,905 | 2,162,030 | 62,875 | 2.9 |
| Time deposits | 3,768,055 | 3,301,661 | 466,394 | 14.1 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 9,174,542 | \$ 8,701,816 | \$ 472,726 | 5.4% |

Interest expense increased \$45.6 million, or 79.2%, to \$103.2 million in the third quarter of 2006 from \$57.6 million in the third quarter of 2005. Interest expense increased \$18.3 million due to a \$2.1 billion, or 22.7%, increase in average balances and \$27.3 million due to the 115 basis point, or 46.0%, increase in the cost of total interest-bearing liabilities. The cost of interest-bearing deposits increased 101 basis points, or 46.5%, from 2.17% in 2005 to 3.18% in 2006. This increase was due to customers becoming increasingly price-sensitive and shifting from core demand and savings accounts to higher cost certificates of deposit.

Average borrowings increased \$754.6 million from the third quarter of 2005. Excluding the impact of the Columbia acquisition, average short-term borrowings increased \$377.3 million, or 33.8%, to \$1.5 billion, while average

long-term debt increased \$111.8 million, or 11.7%, to \$1.1 billion. The increase in short-term borrowings was due to an increase in Federal funds purchased to fund loan growth and investment purchases, offset by slightly lower borrowings outstanding under customer repurchase agreements. The increase in long-term debt was primarily due to the issuance of \$154.6 million of junior subordinated

Table of Contents

deferrable interest debentures in connection with the Columbia acquisition, offset by lower Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) advances.

Provision and Allowance for Loan Losses

The following table presents ending balances of loans outstanding (net of unearned income):

| | September 30 2006 | December 31 2005 | September 30 2005 |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | (in thousands) | |
| Commercial industrial and financial | \$ 2,600,807 | \$ 2,044,010 | \$ 2,049,330 |
| Commercial agricultural | 345,332 | 331,659 | 327,249 |
| Real-estate commercial mortgage | 3,174,623 | 2,831,405 | 2,734,432 |
| Real-estate residential mortgage and home equity | 2,143,367 | 1,773,148 | 1,774,317 |
| Real-estate construction | 1,431,535 | 851,451 | 793,697 |
| Consumer | 529,741 | 520,206 | 531,921 |
| Leasing and other | 86,652 | 72,849 | 64,764 |
| | \$ 10,312,057 | \$ 8,424,728 | \$ 8,275,710 |

Approximately \$4.6 billion, or 44.7%, of the Corporation's loan portfolio was in commercial mortgage and construction loans at September 30, 2006, compared to 42.6% at September 30, 2005. While the Corporation does not have a concentration of credit risk with any single borrower, repayments on loans in these portfolios can be negatively influenced by decreases in real estate values. The Corporation mitigates this risk through stringent underwriting policies and procedures. In addition, approximately 60% of commercial mortgages were owner-occupied as of September 30, 2006. These types of loans are generally considered to involve less risk than non-owner-occupied mortgages. Construction loans at September 30, 2006 consisted of approximately 60% builder and land acquisition loans, 20% residential construction and 20% commercial or multi-family construction.

Table of Contents

The following table presents the activity in the Corporation's allowance for loan losses:

| | Three months ended September 30 | |
|--|--|--------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | (dollars in thousands) | |
| Loans outstanding at end of period (net of unearned) | \$ 10,312,057 | \$ 8,275,710 |
| Daily average balance of loans and leases | \$ 10,167,362 | \$ 8,186,974 |
| <i>Balance at beginning of period</i> | \$ 106,544 | \$ 90,402 |
| Loans charged off: | | |
| Commercial financial and agricultural | 123 | 862 |
| Real estate mortgage | 149 | 49 |
| Consumer | 707 | 640 |
| Leasing and other | 89 | 74 |
| <i>Total loans charged off</i> | 1,068 | 1,625 |
| Recoveries of loans previously charged off: | | |
| Commercial financial and agricultural | 1,039 | 711 |
| Real estate mortgage | 72 | 242 |
| Consumer | 268 | 245 |
| Leasing and other | 12 | 38 |
| <i>Total recoveries</i> | 1,391 | 1,236 |
| Net loans (recovered) charged off | (323) | 389 |
| Provision for loan losses | 555 | 815 |
| Allowance purchased | | 3,108 |
| <i>Balance at end of period</i> | \$ 107,422 | \$ 93,936 |
| Net (recoveries) charge-offs to average loans (annualized) | (0.01%) | 0.02% |
| Allowance for loan losses to loans outstanding | 1.04% | 1.14% |

The following table summarizes the Corporation's non-performing assets as of the indicated dates:

| | September 30 | December 31 | September 30 |
|--|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
|--|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|

Edgar Filing: FULTON FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-Q

| | 2006 | 2005 | 2005 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| | | (dollars in thousands) | |
| Non-accrual loans | \$ 26,591 | \$ 36,560 | \$ 30,669 |
| Loans 90 days past due and accruing | 16,704 | 9,012 | 13,350 |
| Other real estate owned | 3,489 | 2,072 | 4,042 |
| Total non-performing assets | \$ 46,784 | \$ 47,644 | \$ 48,061 |
| | | | |
| Non-accrual loans/Total loans | 0.26% | 0.43% | 0.37% |
| Non-performing assets/Total assets | 0.31% | 0.38% | 0.39% |
| Allowance/Non-performing loans | 248% | 204% | 213% |

The provision for loan losses for the third quarter of 2006 totaled \$555,000, a decrease of \$260,000, or 31.9%, from the same period in 2005. Net recoveries totaled \$323,000, or 0.01% of average loans on an

Table of Contents

annualized basis, during the third quarter of 2006, an increase of \$712,000, or 183.0%, over the \$389,000, or 0.02%, in net charge-offs recorded during the third quarter of 2005. Non-performing assets decreased to \$46.8 million, or 0.31% of total assets, at September 30, 2006, from \$48.1 million, or 0.39% of total assets, at September 30, 2005. Total non-performing assets decreased \$860,000 from December 31, 2005. The Corporation added a \$10.0 million loan to non-accrual when it became 90 days past due on October 31, 2006. This loan was for a community reinvestment act project that has been delayed as a result of funding shortfalls. Had this been included in the September 30, 2006 totals, non-performing assets to total assets would have been 0.38%. As of September 30, 2006, this loan has been appropriately reserved for. The Corporation expects continued pressure to maintain the current low non-performing asset levels in the future due to the rate environment and increased competition for loans. Management believes that the allowance balance of \$107.4 million at September 30, 2006 is sufficient to cover losses inherent in the loan portfolio on that date and is appropriate based on applicable accounting standards.

Other Income

The following table presents the components of other income:

| | Three months ended | | Increase (decrease) | |
|---|--|------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | September 30 (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Investment management and trust services | \$ 8,887 | \$ 8,730 | \$ 157 | 1.8% |
| Service charges on deposit accounts | 11,345 | 10,488 | 857 | 8.2 |
| Other service charges and fees | 6,693 | 5,818 | 875 | 15.0 |
| Gains on sales of mortgage of loans | 5,480 | 7,586 | (2,106) | (27.8) |
| Other | 3,057 | 2,636 | 421 | 16.0 |
| <i>Total, excluding investment securities gains</i> | \$ 35,462 | \$ 35,258 | \$ 204 | 0.6% |
| Investment securities gains | 1,450 | 905 | 545 | 60.2 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 36,912 | \$ 36,163 | \$ 749 | 2.1% |

Other income increased \$749,000, or 2.1%, in 2006 including additions of \$1.2 million due to the acquisition of Columbia, presented as follows:

| | Three months ended | |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | September 30 (in thousands) | |
| Investment management and trust services | \$ 69 | \$ |
| Service charges on deposit accounts | 549 | |
| Other service charges and fees | 144 | |
| Gains on sales of mortgage loans | 277 | |
| Other | 175 | |
| <i>Total, excluding investment securities losses</i> | \$ 1,214 | |
| Investment securities losses | (4) | |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 1,210 | \$ |

Table of Contents

The following table presents the components of other income, excluding the amounts contributed by the Columbia acquisition:

| | Three months ended | | Increase (decrease) | |
|---|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| | September 30 | | | |
| | 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Investment management and trust services | \$ 8,818 | \$ 8,730 | \$ 88 | 1.0% |
| Service charges on deposit accounts | 10,796 | 10,488 | 308 | 2.9 |
| Other service charges and fees | 6,549 | 5,818 | 731 | 12.6 |
| Gains on sales of mortgage loans | 5,203 | 7,586 | (2,383) | (31.4) |
| Other | 2,882 | 2,636 | 246 | 9.3 |
| <i>Total, excluding investment securities gains</i> | \$ 34,248 | \$ 35,258 | \$ (1,010) | (2.9)% |
| Investment securities gains | 1,454 | 905 | 549 | 60.7 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 35,702 | \$ 36,163 | \$ (461) | (1.3)% |

The discussion that follows addresses changes in other income, excluding the acquisition of Columbia.

Excluding investment securities gains, total other income decreased \$1.0 million, or 2.9%, primarily due to a \$2.4 million decrease in gains on sales of mortgage loans. The reduction in gains on sales of mortgage loans resulted from a significant decrease in volume (\$211.4 million, or 29.8%), offset by an eight point improvement in the margin on sales. The decrease in sales volume resulted from the increase in longer-term mortgage rates.

The increase in service charges on deposit accounts was due to increases of \$327,000 and \$196,000 in cash management fees and overdraft fees, respectively, offset by a \$215,000 decrease in other service charges on deposit accounts. The increase in cash management fees was primarily due to increased efforts to enhance fee income as well as increased use of this product by business customers. The increase in overdraft fees was primarily from personal accounts. The increase in other service charges and fees was due to increases in letter of credit fees (\$341,000 or 33.9%), debit card fees (\$248,000, or 15.2%) and merchant fees (\$192,000, or 12.6%), offset by decreases in other non-deposit account fees.

The increase in other income was due to \$274,000 of insurance proceeds received under Corporate owned life insurance contracts during the third quarter of 2006.

Investment securities gains increased \$549,000, or 60.7%. Investment securities gains during the third quarter of 2006 and 2005 consisted of net realized gains of \$989,000 and \$905,000 on the sale of equity securities. Investment security gains for the third quarter of 2006 also included \$465,000 on the sale of available for sale debt securities.

Table of Contents**Other Expenses**

The following table presents the components of other expenses:

| | Three months ended | | Increase (decrease) | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| | September 30 | | | |
| | 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Salaries and employee benefits | \$ 55,048 | \$ 46,761 | \$ 8,287 | 17.7% |
| Net occupancy expense | 9,260 | 7,459 | 1,801 | 24.1 |
| Equipment expense | 3,703 | 3,203 | 500 | 15.6 |
| Data processing | 3,057 | 3,100 | (43) | (1.4) |
| Advertising | 2,934 | 1,995 | 939 | 47.1 |
| Intangible amortization | 2,025 | 1,510 | 515 | 34.1 |
| Other | 16,398 | 17,509 | (1,111) | (6.3) |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 92,425 | \$ 81,537 | \$ 10,888 | 13.4% |

Total other expenses increased \$10.9 million, or 13.4%, in 2006, including \$9.7 million due to the Columbia acquisition, presented as follows:

| | Three months ended | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| | September 30 | |
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | (in thousands) | |
| Salaries and employee benefits | \$ 5,591 | \$ |
| Net occupancy expense | 1,067 | |
| Equipment expense | 399 | |
| Data processing | 354 | |
| Advertising | 358 | |
| Intangible amortization | 569 | |
| Other | 1,400 | |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 9,738 | \$ |

The following table presents the components of other expenses, excluding the amounts contributed by the Columbia acquisition:

| | Three months ended | | Increase (decrease) | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|----------|
| | September 30 | | | |
| | 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Salaries and employee benefits | \$ 49,457 | \$ 46,761 | \$ 2,696 | 5.8% |
| Net occupancy expense | 8,193 | 7,459 | 734 | 9.8 |
| Equipment expense | 3,304 | 3,203 | 101 | 3.2 |
| Data processing | 2,703 | 3,100 | (397) | (12.8) |
| Advertising | 2,576 | 1,995 | 581 | 29.1 |
| Intangible amortization | 1,456 | 1,510 | (54) | (3.6) |
| Other | 14,998 | 17,509 | (2,511) | (14.3) |

| | | | | |
|--------------|------------------|-----------|----------|------|
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 82,687 | \$ 81,537 | \$ 1,150 | 1.4% |
|--------------|------------------|-----------|----------|------|

The discussion that follows addresses changes in other expenses, excluding the acquisition of Columbia.

28

Table of Contents

The increase in salaries and employee benefits resulted from the salary expense component increasing \$2.0 million, or 5.2%, driven by an increase in total average full-time equivalent employees and normal increases for existing employees. Also contributing to the increase in salaries was a \$500,000 increase related to corporate management bonuses, a \$160,000 increase in stock option expense due to the issuance of the July 1, 2006 grant and a \$140,000 early payout on an affiliate employment contract. Employee benefits increased \$714,000, or 8.3%, in comparison to the third quarter of 2005 due to increases in healthcare costs, offset by a decrease in expenses related to the Corporation's defined benefit pension plan as a result of a \$10.7 million contribution to plan assets in 2005.

The increase in occupancy expense resulted from increased rental expense and depreciation of real property and higher maintenance and utility costs in the third quarter of 2006 in comparison to 2005, mainly due to growth, particularly in the branch network. The decrease in data processing expense, which consists mainly of fees paid for outsourced back office systems, was mainly due to the renegotiation of certain key processing contracts. The increase in advertising was due to the timing of promotional campaigns.

The decrease in other expenses was due to a reduction in operating risk loss of \$570,000, state tax recoveries of \$460,000, the favorable net impact of fair value gains and losses on derivative financial instruments of \$380,000 related to interest rate swaps, and one-time charges recorded in the third quarter of 2005, primarily associated with the relocation of an affiliate office. See also Note H, Derivative Financial Instruments in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Instruments for a further discussion of the Corporation's interest rate swaps.

Income Taxes

Income tax expense for the third quarter of 2006 was \$21.5 million, a \$3.3 million, or 18.4%, increase from \$18.2 million in 2005. The Corporation's effective tax rate was approximately 30.8% in 2006, as compared to 30.1% in 2005. The effective rate is lower than the Federal statutory rate of 35% due mainly to investments in tax-free municipal securities and Federal tax credits from investments in low and moderate-income housing partnerships.

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 versus Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005

Results for the first nine months of 2006 compared to the results for the first nine months of 2005 were impacted by the February 2006 acquisition of Columbia and the July 2005 acquisition of SVB.

Net Interest Income

Net interest income increased \$59.2 million, or 19.4%, to \$363.8 million in 2006 from \$304.7 million in 2005. The increase was due to average balance growth, with total interest-earning assets increasing 21.2%, offset by a lower net interest margin. The average FTE yield on interest-earning assets increased 89 basis points (a 15.3% increase) over 2005 while the cost of interest-bearing liabilities increased 108 basis points (a 47.0% increase). The higher increase in the cost and average balance growth of interest-bearing liabilities resulted in a five basis point decrease in net interest margin.

Table of Contents

The following table provides a comparative average balance sheet and net interest income analysis for the first nine months of 2006 as compared to the same period in 2005. Interest income and yields are presented on an FTE basis, using a 35% Federal tax rate. The discussion following this table is based on these FTE amounts. All dollar amounts are in thousands.

| | Nine months ended September 30 | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|----------------|----------------------|------------|----------------|
| | 2006 | | | 2005 | | |
| | Average Balance | Interest | Yield/ Rate | Average Balance | Interest | Yield/ Rate |
| ASSETS | | | | | | |
| Interest-earning assets: | | | | | | |
| Loans and leases (1) | \$ 9,750,452 | \$ 537,281 | 7.37% | \$ 7,847,559 | \$ 376,095 | 6.41% |
| Taxable investment securities (2) | 2,246,672 | 71,426 | 4.24 | 1,989,612 | 55,301 | 3.71 |
| Tax-exempt investment securities (2) | 438,510 | 15,881 | 4.83 | 354,734 | 13,243 | 4.98 |
| Equity securities (2) | 151,078 | 5,132 | 4.53 | 131,692 | 4,060 | 4.12 |
| Total investment securities | 2,836,260 | 92,439 | 4.35 | 2,476,038 | 72,604 | 3.91 |
| Loans held for sale | 216,295 | 11,688 | 7.21 | 243,391 | 10,973 | 6.01 |
| Other interest-earning assets | 56,045 | 1,950 | 4.63 | 46,432 | 1,066 | 3.05 |
| Total interest-earning assets | 12,859,052 | 643,358 | 6.69% | 10,613,420 | 460,738 | 5.80% |
| Noninterest-earning assets: | | | | | | |
| Cash and due from banks | 340,885 | | | 345,480 | | |
| Premises and equipment | 183,112 | | | 155,253 | | |
| Other assets | 836,754 | | | 587,533 | | |
| Less: Allowance for loan losses | (105,291) | | | (92,089) | | |
| <i>Total Assets</i> | \$ 14,114,512 | | | \$ 11,609,597 | | |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | | | | | | |
| Interest-bearing liabilities: | | | | | | |
| Demand deposits | \$ 1,676,087 | \$ 18,112 | 1.44% | \$ 1,522,366 | \$ 10,448 | 0.92% |
| Savings deposits | 2,348,710 | 37,181 | 2.12 | 2,021,169 | 17,964 | 1.19 |
| Time deposits | 4,042,569 | 120,934 | 4.00 | 3,105,403 | 68,980 | 2.97 |
| Total interest-bearing deposits | 8,067,366 | 176,227 | 2.92 | 6,648,938 | 97,392 | 1.96 |
| Short-term borrowings | 1,607,946 | 55,430 | 4.56 | 1,178,061 | 23,393 | 2.63 |
| Long-term debt | 1,033,706 | 39,484 | 5.11 | 828,427 | 28,048 | 4.53 |
| Total interest-bearing liabilities | 10,709,018 | 271,141 | 3.38% | 8,655,426 | 148,833 | 2.30% |
| Noninterest-bearing liabilities: | | | | | | |
| Demand deposits | 1,809,545 | | | 1,576,695 | | |
| Other | 171,391 | | | 133,628 | | |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i> | 12,689,954 | | | 10,365,749 | | |
| Shareholders' equity | 1,424,558 | | | 1,243,848 | | |
| | \$ 14,114,512 | | | \$ 11,609,597 | | |

*Total Liabilities and Shareholders
Equity*

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------|------------|-------|
| Net interest income/net interest margin (FTE) | 372,217 | 3.88% | 311,905 | 3.93% |
| Tax equivalent adjustment | (8,399) | | (7,249) | |
| Net interest income | \$ 363,818 | | \$ 304,656 | |

- (1) Includes non-performing loans.
- (2) Balances include amortized historical cost for available for sale securities. The related unrealized holding gains (losses) are included in other assets.

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes the changes in FTE interest income and expense due to changes in average balances (volume) and changes in rates:

| | 2006 vs. 2005 | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Increase (decrease) due | | |
| | To change in | | |
| | Volume | Rate | Net |
| | | (in thousands) | |
| Interest income on: | | | |
| Loans and leases | \$ 99,640 | \$ 61,546 | \$ 161,186 |
| Taxable investment securities | 7,620 | 8,505 | 16,125 |
| Tax-exempt investment securities | 3,044 | (406) | 2,638 |
| Equity securities | 640 | 432 | 1,072 |
| Loans held for sale | (1,312) | 2,027 | 715 |
| Other interest-earning assets | 252 | 632 | 884 |
| <i>Total interest income</i> | \$ 109,884 | \$ 72,736 | \$ 182,620 |
| Interest expense on: | | | |
| Demand deposits | \$ 1,146 | \$ 6,518 | \$ 7,664 |
| Savings deposits | 3,302 | 15,915 | 19,217 |
| Time deposits | 24,176 | 27,778 | 51,954 |
| Short-term borrowings | 10,675 | 21,362 | 32,037 |
| Long-term debt | 7,537 | 3,899 | 11,436 |
| <i>Total interest expense</i> | \$ 46,836 | \$ 75,472 | \$ 122,308 |

Interest income increased \$182.6 million, or 39.6%, primarily as a result of increases in average balances of interest-earning assets and partially as a result of increases in rates. Interest income increased \$109.9 million as a result of a \$2.2 billion, or 21.2%, increase in average balances, while an increase of \$72.7 million was realized from the 89 basis point increase in rates.

The increase in average interest-earning assets was primarily due to loan growth. Average loans increased \$1.9 billion, or 24.2%. The following summarizes the growth in average loans, by type:

| | | Nine months ended | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|
| | | September 30 | | | |
| | | 2006 | 2005 | Increase | % |
| | | (dollars in thousands) | | \$ | |
| Commercial industrial and financial | | \$ 2,445,367 | \$ 2,007,730 | \$ 437,637 | 21.8% |
| Commercial agricultural | | 330,368 | 323,244 | 7,124 | 2.2 |
| Real estate commercial mortgage | | 3,033,010 | 2,568,766 | 464,244 | 18.1 |
| Real estate residential mortgage and home equity | | 2,026,406 | 1,693,731 | 332,675 | 19.6 |
| Real estate construction | | 1,317,274 | 695,729 | 621,545 | 89.3 |
| Consumer | | 522,396 | 493,681 | 28,715 | 5.8 |

Edgar Filing: FULTON FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|
| Leasing and other | 75,631 | 64,678 | 10,953 | 16.9 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 9,750,452 | \$ 7,847,559 | \$ 1,902,893 | 24.2% |

31

Table of Contents

The acquisitions of Columbia and SVB contributed approximately \$1.2 million to the increase in average balances. The following table presents the average balance impact of acquisitions, by type:

| | Nine months ended | | Increase |
|--|--------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| | September 30 | | |
| | 2006 | 2005 | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | |
| Commercial industrial and financial | \$ 325,526 | \$ 22,868 | \$ 302,658 |
| Real estate commercial mortgage | 258,702 | 48,768 | 209,934 |
| Real estate residential mortgage and home equity | 252,938 | 19,033 | 233,905 |
| Real estate construction | 419,556 | 11,861 | 407,695 |
| Consumer | 4,746 | 553 | 4,193 |
| Leasing and other | 1,280 | 82 | 1,198 |
| Total | \$ 1,262,748 | \$ 103,165 | \$ 1,159,583 |

The following table presents the growth in average loans, by type, excluding the average balances contributed by the acquisitions of Columbia and SVB:

| | Nine months ended | | Increase | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|
| | September 30 | | \$ | % |
| | 2006 | 2005 | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Commercial industrial and financial | \$ 2,119,841 | \$ 1,984,862 | \$ 134,979 | 6.8% |
| Commercial agricultural | 330,368 | 323,244 | 7,124 | 2.2 |
| Real estate commercial mortgage | 2,774,308 | 2,519,998 | 254,310 | 10.1 |
| Real estate residential mortgage and home equity | 1,773,468 | 1,674,698 | 98,770 | 5.9 |
| Real estate construction | 897,718 | 683,868 | 213,850 | 31.3 |
| Consumer | 517,650 | 493,128 | 24,522 | 5.0 |
| Leasing and other | 74,351 | 64,596 | 9,755 | 15.1 |
| Total | \$ 8,487,704 | \$ 7,744,394 | \$ 743,310 | 9.6% |

Excluding the impact of acquisitions, loan growth was particularly strong in the commercial mortgage and construction categories, which together increased \$468.2 million, or 14.6%. Commercial loans increased \$135.0 million, or 6.8%. Residential mortgage and home equity loans increased \$98.8 million, or 5.9%, primarily due to increases in home equity loans.

The average yield on loans during the first nine months of 2006 was 7.37%, a 96 basis point, or 15.0%, increase over 2005. This increase in the average yield on loans reflects the impact of a significant portfolio of floating rate loans, which immediately reprice to higher rates when interest rates rise, as they have over the past twelve months, and the addition of higher yielding new loans.

Average investment securities increased \$360.2 million, or 14.5%. Excluding the impact of acquisitions, this increase was \$67.5 million, or 2.8%, funded by increased borrowings as a result of the pre-purchase of securities discussed previously. The average yield on investment securities increased 44 basis points from 3.91% in 2005 to 4.35% in 2006.

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes the growth in average deposits by category:

| | Nine months ended September 30 | | Increase | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|
| | 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Noninterest-bearing demand | \$ 1,809,545 | \$ 1,576,695 | \$ 232,850 | 14.8% |
| Interest-bearing demand | 1,676,087 | 1,522,366 | 153,721 | 10.1 |
| Savings | 2,348,710 | 2,021,169 | 327,541 | 16.2 |
| Time deposits | 4,042,569 | 3,105,403 | 937,166 | 30.2 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 9,876,911 | \$ 8,225,633 | \$ 1,651,278 | 20.1% |

The acquisitions of Columbia and SVB accounted for approximately \$1.2 billion of the increase in average balances. The following table presents the average balance impact of acquisitions, by type:

| | Nine months ended September 30 | | Increase |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 | |
| | (in thousands) | | |
| Noninterest-bearing demand | \$ 284,765 | \$ 21,216 | \$ 263,549 |
| Interest-bearing demand | 167,384 | 34,285 | 133,099 |
| Savings | 276,351 | 53,616 | 222,735 |
| Time deposits | 599,647 | 50,227 | 549,420 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 1,328,147 | \$ 159,344 | \$ 1,168,803 |

The following table presents the growth in average deposits, by type, excluding the contribution of the acquisitions of Columbia and SVB:

| | Nine months ended September 30 | | Increase (decrease) | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------|
| | 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Noninterest-bearing demand | \$ 1,524,780 | \$ 1,555,479 | \$ (30,699) | (2.0)% |
| Interest-bearing demand | 1,508,703 | 1,488,081 | 20,622 | 1.4 |
| Savings | 2,072,359 | 1,967,553 | 104,806 | 5.3 |
| Time deposits | 3,442,922 | 3,055,176 | 387,746 | 12.7 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 8,548,764 | \$ 8,066,289 | \$ 482,475 | 6.0% |

Interest expense increased \$122.3 million, or 82.2%, to \$271.1 million in the first nine months of 2006 from \$148.8 million in the first nine months of 2005. Interest expense increased \$46.8 million due to a \$2.1 billion, or 23.7%, increase in average balances and \$75.5 million due to a 108 basis point, or 47.0%, increase in the cost of total interest-bearing liabilities. The cost of interest-bearing deposits increased 96 basis points, or 49.0%, from 1.96% in 2005 to 2.92% in 2006. This increase was due to rising rates in general as a result of the FRB's rate increases over the past twelve months. Additional increases have resulted from customers becoming increasingly price-sensitive and shifting from core demand and savings accounts to higher cost certificates of deposits.

Average borrowings increased \$635.2 million from the first nine months of 2005. Excluding the impact of acquisitions, average short-term borrowings increased \$231.3 million, or 19.6%, to \$1.4 billion, while average long-term debt increased \$176.1 million, or 21.4%, to \$998.5 million. The increase in short-term borrowings was mainly due to an increase in Federal funds purchased to fund investment purchases and

Table of Contents

loan growth, offset slightly by lower borrowings outstanding under customer repurchase agreements. The increase in long-term debt was primarily due to the issuance of \$154.6 million of junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures in connection with the Columbia acquisition and the impact of \$100.0 million of subordinated debt issued and outstanding since March 2005, offset by decreased FHLB advances.

Provision and Allowance for Loan Loss

The following table presents the activity in the Corporation's allowance for loan losses:

| | Nine months ended | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|
| | September 30 | |
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | (dollars in thousands) | |
| Loans outstanding at end of period (net of unearned) | \$ 10,312,057 | \$ 8,275,710 |
| Daily average balance of loans and leases | \$ 9,750,452 | \$ 7,847,559 |
| <i>Balance at beginning of period</i> | \$ 92,847 | \$ 89,627 |
| Loans charged off: | | |
| Commercial financial and agricultural | 2,018 | 2,414 |
| Real estate mortgage | 307 | 290 |
| Consumer | 1,705 | 2,241 |
| Leasing and other | 217 | 159 |
| <i>Total loans charged off</i> | 4,247 | 5,104 |
| Recoveries of loans previously charged off: | | |
| Commercial financial and agricultural | 2,210 | 1,887 |
| Real estate mortgage | 178 | 1,159 |
| Consumer | 945 | 853 |
| Leasing and other | 68 | 66 |
| <i>Total recoveries</i> | 3,401 | 3,965 |
| Net loans charged off | 846 | 1,139 |
| Provision for loan losses | 2,430 | 2,340 |
| Allowance purchased | 12,991 | 3,108 |
| <i>Balance at end of period</i> | \$ 107,422 | \$ 93,936 |
| Net charge-offs to average loans (annualized) | 0.01% | 0.02% |
| Allowance for loan losses to loans outstanding | 1.04% | 1.14% |

The provision for loan losses for the first nine months of 2006 totaled \$2.4 million, an increase of \$90,000, or 3.8%, from the same period in 2005. Net charge-offs totaled \$846,000, or 0.01%, of average loans on an annualized basis, during the first nine months of 2006, a \$293,000 increase over the \$1.1 million, or 0.02%, in net charge-offs for the first nine months of 2005.

Table of Contents**Other Income**

The following table presents the components of other income:

| | Nine months ended September 30 | | Increase (decrease) | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------------|--------|
| | 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Investment management and trust services | \$ 27,975 | \$ 26,715 | \$ 1,260 | 4.7% |
| Service charges on deposit accounts | 32,484 | 29,780 | 2,704 | 9.1 |
| Other service charges and fees | 19,923 | 18,519 | 1,404 | 7.6 |
| Gains on sales of mortgage loans | 15,439 | 19,533 | (4,094) | (21.0) |
| Gain on sale of deposits | | 2,201 | (2,201) | N/A |
| Other | 8,176 | 7,947 | 229 | 2.9 |
| <i>Total, excluding investment securities gains</i> | \$ 103,997 | \$ 104,695 | \$ (698) | (0.7)% |
| Investment securities gains | 5,524 | 5,638 | (114) | (2.0) |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 109,521 | \$ 110,333 | \$ (812) | (0.7)% |

Other income decreased \$812,000, or 0.7%, in 2006, despite a net \$4.3 million increase due to the acquisitions of Columbia and SVB, presented as follows:

| | Nine months ended September 30 | | Increase |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| | 2006 | 2005 | |
| | (in thousands) | | |
| Investment management and trust services | \$ 560 | \$ 29 | \$ 531 |
| Service charges on deposit accounts | 1,821 | 106 | 1,715 |
| Other service charges and fees | 707 | 99 | 608 |
| Gains on sales of mortgage loans | 787 | 12 | 775 |
| Other | 739 | 135 | 604 |
| <i>Total, excluding investment securities gains</i> | \$ 4,614 | \$ 381 | \$ 4,233 |
| Investment securities gains | 57 | | 57 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 4,671 | \$ 381 | \$ 4,290 |

The following table presents the components of other income, excluding the amounts contributed by the Columbia and SVB acquisitions:

| | Nine months ended September 30 | | Increase (decrease) | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|--------|
| | 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Investment management and trust services | \$ 27,415 | \$ 26,686 | \$ 729 | 2.7% |
| Service charges on deposit accounts | 30,663 | 29,674 | 989 | 3.3 |
| Other service charges and fees | 19,216 | 18,420 | 796 | 4.3 |
| Gains on sales of mortgage loans | 14,652 | 19,521 | (4,869) | (24.9) |
| Gain on sale of deposits | | 2,200 | (2,200) | N/A |

Edgar Filing: FULTON FINANCIAL CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|------------|--------|
| Other | 7,437 | 7,813 | (376) | (4.8) |
| <i>Total, excluding investment securities gains</i> | \$ 99,383 | \$ 104,314 | \$ (4,931) | (4.7)% |
| Investment securities gains | 5,467 | 5,638 | (171) | (3.0) |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 104,850 | \$ 109,952 | \$ (5,102) | (4.6)% |

35

Table of Contents

The following table presents the components of other expenses, excluding the amounts contributed by the Columbia and SVB acquisitions:

| | Nine months ended September 30 | | Increase (decrease) | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 | \$ | % |
| | | | (dollars in thousands) | |
| Salaries and employee benefits | \$ 138,831 | \$ 134,563 | \$ 4,268 | 3.2% |
| Net occupancy expense | 22,397 | 21,020 | 1,377 | 6.6 |
| Equipment expense | 9,219 | 9,000 | 219 | 2.4 |
| Data processing | 8,010 | 9,295 | (1,285) | (13.8) |
| Advertising | 7,032 | 6,153 | 879 | 14.3 |
| Intangible amortization | 3,318 | 3,464 | (146) | (4.2) |
| Other | 46,697 | 46,411 | 286 | 0.6 |
| <i>Total</i> | \$ 235,504 | \$ 229,906 | \$ 5,598 | 2.4% |

The discussion that follows addresses changes in other expenses, excluding the acquisitions of Columbia and SVB. The increase in salaries and employee benefits resulted from an increase in the salary expense component of \$3.6 million, or 3.3%, driven by an increase in total average full-time equivalent employees and normal increases for existing employees. Also contributing to the increase in salaries was a \$500,000 increase related to corporate management bonuses, a \$160,000 increase in stock option expense due to the issuance of the July 1, 2006 grant and a \$140,000 early payout on an affiliate employment contract. Employee benefits increased \$702,000, or 2.7%, in comparison to the first nine months of 2005 due to an increase in healthcare costs, offset by decreased costs related to the Corporation's defined benefit pension plan as a result of a \$10.7 million contribution to plan assets in 2005. The increase in occupancy expense resulted from increased rental expense and depreciation of real property and higher maintenance and utility costs, mainly due to growth, particularly in the branch network. The decrease in data processing expense, which consists mainly of fees paid for outsourced back office systems, was mainly due to the renegotiation of key processing contracts with certain vendors. Advertising expenses increases are related to increased discretionary promotional campaigns during 2006.

Income Taxes

Income tax expense for the first nine months of 2006 was \$60.8 million, a \$6.8 million, or 12.7%, increase from \$53.9 million in 2005. The Corporation's effective tax rate was approximately 30.4% in the first half of 2006, as compared to 30.1% in 2005. The effective rate is lower than the Federal statutory rate of 35% due mainly to investments in tax-free municipal securities and federal tax credits from investments in low and moderate-income housing partnerships.

Table of Contents**FINANCIAL CONDITION**

Total assets of the Corporation increased \$2.5 billion, or 20.2%, to \$14.9 billion at September 30, 2006, compared to \$12.4 billion at December 31, 2005. The acquisition of Columbia has added \$1.5 billion to total assets, based on estimated fair values on the acquisition date. Excluding the acquisition of Columbia, the increase in total assets was mainly attributable to an increase in loans (\$821.7 million, or 9.8%) and investment securities (\$261.4 million, or 10.0%).

Unless otherwise noted, the discussion that follows addresses the changes in the consolidated balance sheet excluding the impact of the Columbia acquisition. See Note G, Acquisitions in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for a summary of the balances recorded for Columbia.

The Corporation experienced strong loan growth across all loan types, due to continued favorable economic conditions. Commercial loans and mortgages increased \$499.4 million, or 9.6%, construction loans grew \$145.1 million, or 17.0%, and residential mortgages and home equity loans increased \$157.9 million, or 8.9%. Consumer loans increased \$6.1 million, or 1.2%.

Deposits increased \$503.3 million, or 5.7%, from December 31, 2005. Savings deposits increased \$54.8 million, or 2.6%, while interest-bearing and non-interest bearing demand deposits decreased \$63.1 million, or 3.9%, and \$35.6 million, or 2.1%, respectively. Time deposits increased \$547.1 million, or 16.2%, reflecting a significant shift by customers as rates on time deposits increased due to competitive pressures resulting from the FRB's four short-term interest rate increases during the first nine months of 2006.

Short-term borrowings, which consist mainly of Federal funds purchased and customer cash management accounts, increased \$350.6 million, or 27.0%, during the first nine months of 2006, mainly in Federal funds purchased.

Long-term debt increased \$168.7 million, or 19.6%, primarily due to the Corporation's issuance of \$154.6 million of junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures in January 2006 and additional FHLB advances. See the Liquidity section of Management's Discussion for a summary of the terms of the junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures.

Capital Resources

Total shareholders' equity increased \$214.7 million, or 16.7%, during the first nine months of 2006. Stock issued in connection with the acquisition of Columbia accounted for \$154.1 million, or 71.8%, of the increase. In addition, equity increased due to net income of \$138.9 million and \$7.7 million in other comprehensive income, offset by \$75.3 million in cash dividends paid to shareholders and \$16.7 million in treasury stock purchases.

The Corporation periodically implements stock repurchase plans for various corporate purposes. In addition to evaluating the financial benefits of implementing repurchase plans, management also considers liquidity needs, the current market price per share and regulatory limitations.

Under an Accelerated Share Repurchase program (ASR), the Corporation repurchases shares immediately from an investment bank rather than over time. The investment bank, in turn, repurchases shares on the open market over a period that is determined by the average daily trading volume of the Corporation's shares, among other factors. For the ASR that was implemented in the second quarter of 2005, the Corporation settled its position with the investment bank during the first quarter of 2006 at the termination of the ASR by paying the investment bank a total of \$3.4 million, representing the difference between the initial price paid and the actual price of the shares repurchased.

In March 2006, the Corporation's Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase plan for 2.1 million shares through December 31, 2006. The Corporation expects to purchase these shares through open market acquisitions. During the first nine months of 2006, 1.1 million shares were repurchased under this plan.

Table of Contents

The Corporation and its subsidiary banks are subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by banking regulators. Failure to meet minimum capital requirements can initiate certain actions by regulators that could have a material effect on the Corporation's financial statements. The regulations require that banks maintain minimum amounts and ratios of total and Tier I capital (as defined in the regulations) to risk weighted assets (as defined), and Tier I capital to average assets (as defined). As of September 30, 2006, the Corporation and each of its bank subsidiaries met the minimum requirements. In addition, the Corporation and each of its bank subsidiaries' capital ratios exceeded the amounts required to be considered well-capitalized as defined in the regulations. The following table summarizes the Corporation's capital ratios in comparison to regulatory requirements as of September 30:

| | September 30 2006 | December 31 2005 | Regulatory Minimum | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | | | Capital Adequacy | Well Capitalized |
| Total Capital (to Risk Weighted Assets) | 11.3% | 12.1% | 8.0% | 10.0% |
| Tier I Capital (to Risk Weighted Assets) | 9.5% | 10.0% | 4.0% | 6.0% |
| Tier I Capital (to Average Assets) | 7.6% | 7.7% | 3.0% | 5.0% |

Liquidity

The Corporation must maintain a sufficient level of liquid assets to meet the cash needs of its customers, who, as depositors, may want to withdraw funds or who, as borrowers, need credit availability. Liquidity is provided on a continuous basis through scheduled and unscheduled principal and interest payments on outstanding loans and investments and through the availability of deposits and borrowings. In addition, the Corporation can borrow on a secured basis from the FHLB to meet short-term liquidity needs.

The Corporation's sources and uses of cash were discussed in general terms in the net interest income section of Management's Discussion. The Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows provide additional information. The Corporation generated \$149.4 million in cash from operating activities during the first nine months of 2006, mainly due to net income. Investing activities resulted in a net cash outflow of \$1.1 billion, due to purchases of investment securities and loan originations exceeding proceeds from the sales and maturities of investment securities and loan repayments, in addition to cash used for the acquisition of Columbia. Finally, financing activities resulted in a net inflow of \$938.2 million due to increases in time deposits and additional borrowings.

Liquidity must also be managed at the Fulton Financial Corporation Parent Company level. For safety and soundness reasons, banking regulations limit the amount of cash that can be transferred from subsidiary banks to the Parent Company in the form of loans and dividends. Generally, these limitations are based on the subsidiary banks' regulatory capital levels and their net income. As a result of increased acquisition activity and stock repurchase plans the Parent Company's cash needs have increased in recent years, requiring additional sources of funds.

In January 2006, the Corporation purchased all of the common stock of a new subsidiary, Fulton Capital Trust I, which was formed for the purpose of issuing \$150.0 million of trust preferred securities at an effective rate of approximately 6.50%. In connection with this transaction, \$154.6 million of junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures were issued to the trust. These debentures carry the same rate and mature on February 1, 2036.

In 2005, the Corporation issued \$100.0 million of ten-year subordinated notes, which mature April 1, 2015 and carry a fixed rate of 5.35%. The Corporation also has a revolving line of credit agreement with an unaffiliated bank. Under the terms of the agreement, the Corporation can borrow up to \$100.0 million with interest calculated at the one-month London Interbank Offering Rate (LIBOR) plus 0.35%. The credit agreement requires the Corporation to maintain certain financial ratios related to capital strength

Table of Contents

and earnings. The Corporation was in compliance with all required covenants under the credit agreement as of September 30, 2006. As of September 30, 2006, there was \$27.6 million borrowed against this line. These borrowing arrangements supplement the liquidity available from subsidiaries through dividends and borrowings and provide some flexibility in Parent Company cash management. Management continues to monitor the liquidity and capital needs of the Parent Company and will implement appropriate strategies, as necessary, to remain well capitalized and to meet its cash needs.

Table of Contents**Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

Market risk is the exposure to economic loss that arises from changes in the values of certain financial instruments. The types of market risk exposures generally faced by financial institutions include interest rate risk, equity market price risk, foreign currency risk and commodity price risk. Due to the nature of its operations, only equity market price risk and interest rate risk are significant to the Corporation.

Equity Market Price Risk

Equity market price risk is the risk that changes in the values of equity investments could have a material impact on the financial position or results of operations of the Corporation. The Corporation's equity investments consist primarily of common stocks of publicly traded financial institutions (cost basis of approximately \$79.8 million and fair value of \$79.1 million at September 30, 2006). The Corporation's financial institutions stock portfolio had gross unrealized losses of approximately \$3.3 million at September 30, 2006.

Although the carrying value of financial institutions stock accounted for 0.5% of the Corporation's total assets, the unrealized gains on the portfolio represent a potential source of revenue. The Corporation has a history of periodically realizing gains from this portfolio and, if values were to decline more significantly, or for an extended period of time, this revenue source could be lost.

Management continuously monitors the fair value of its equity investments and evaluates current market conditions and operating results of the companies. Periodic sale and purchase decisions are made based on this monitoring process. None of the Corporation's equity securities are classified as trading. Future cash flows from these investments are not provided in the table on page 42 as such investments do not have maturity dates.

The Corporation has evaluated, based on existing accounting guidance, whether any unrealized losses on individual equity investments constituted other-than-temporary impairment, which would require a write-down through a charge to earnings. Based on the results of such evaluations, the Corporation recorded write-downs of \$77,000 for specific equity securities which were deemed to exhibit other-than-temporary impairment in value during the nine-months ended September 30, 2006. For the nine-months ended September 30, 2005, the Corporation recorded write-downs of \$65,000 for specific equity securities which were deemed to exhibit other-than-temporary impairment. Through September 30, 2006, the Corporation had recorded cumulative write-downs of approximately \$3.9 million. Through September 30, 2006, gains of approximately \$2.7 million had been realized on the sale of investments previously written down, the majority of which were recorded prior to the nine months ended September 30, 2006. Additional impairment charges may be necessary depending upon the performance of the equity markets in general and the performance of the individual investments held by the Corporation.

In addition to its equity portfolio, the Corporation's investment management and trust services revenue could be impacted by fluctuations in the securities markets. A portion of the Corporation's trust revenue is based on the value of the underlying investment portfolios. If securities markets contract, the Corporation's revenue could be negatively impacted. In addition, the ability of the Corporation to sell its equities brokerage services is dependent, in part, upon consumers' level of confidence in the outlook for rising securities prices.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk creates exposure in two primary areas. First, changes in rates have an impact on the Corporation's liquidity position and could affect its ability to meet obligations and continue to grow. Second, movements in interest rates can create fluctuations in the Corporation's net income and changes in the economic value of its equity.

Table of Contents

The Corporation employs various management techniques to minimize its exposure to interest rate risk. An Asset/Liability Management Committee (ALCO), consisting of key financial and senior management personnel, meets on a weekly basis. The ALCO is responsible for reviewing the interest rate sensitivity position of the Corporation, approving asset and liability management policies, and overseeing the formulation and implementation of strategies regarding balance sheet positions and earnings.

The following table provides information about the Corporation's interest rate sensitive financial instruments. The table provides expected cash flows and weighted average rates for each significant interest rate sensitive financial instrument, by expected maturity period. None of the Corporation's financial instruments are classified as trading. All dollar amounts are in thousands.

| | Expected Maturity Period | | | | | | | Total | Estimated Fair Value |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Beyond | | | |
| Rate loans (1) | \$ 861,822 | \$ 601,822 | \$ 514,818 | \$ 345,856 | \$ 256,413 | \$ 606,519 | \$ 3,187,250 | \$ 3,090,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 6.51% | 6.29% | 6.39% | 6.52% | 6.66% | 6.25% | 6.41% | | |
| Rate loans (7) (8) | 3,186,168 | 775,475 | 595,464 | 498,283 | 410,345 | 1,638,728 | 7,104,463 | 7,070,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 8.24% | 7.71% | 7.66% | 7.67% | 7.26% | 6.66% | 7.67% | | |
| Rate investments (2) | 514,282 | 444,510 | 391,764 | 665,417 | 268,527 | 462,867 | 2,747,367 | 2,700,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 4.18% | 3.94% | 4.16% | 3.97% | 4.60% | 5.09% | 4.28% | | |
| Rate investments (2) | | 315 | 1,609 | | 500 | 96,613 | 99,037 | 99,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | | 4.01% | 4.93% | | 5.50% | 5.50% | 5.49% | | |
| Interest-earning assets | 272,671 | | | | | | 272,671 | 272,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 7.01% | | | | | | 7.01% | | |
| | \$4,834,942 | \$1,822,122 | \$1,503,655 | \$1,509,556 | \$935,785 | \$2,804,727 | \$13,410,788 | \$13,230,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 7.43% | 6.32% | 6.31% | 5.77% | 6.33% | 6.27% | 6.65% | | |
| Rate deposits (3) | \$3,272,162 | \$ 508,511 | \$ 168,852 | \$ 108,957 | \$ 80,107 | \$ 207,262 | \$ 4,345,851 | \$ 4,310,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 4.32% | 4.17% | 4.16% | 4.44% | 4.46% | 4.47% | 4.31% | | |
| Rate deposits (4) | 1,791,628 | 282,289 | 282,289 | 268,150 | 260,866 | 3,045,562 | 5,930,784 | 5,930,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 3.05% | 1.02% | 1.02% | 0.89% | 0.81% | 0.68% | 1.44% | | |
| Rate borrowings (5) | 596,125 | 226,985 | 61,553 | 119,553 | 543 | 281,367 | 1,286,126 | 1,300,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 4.31% | 4.87% | 4.66% | 5.58% | 4.68% | 5.75% | 4.86% | | |
| Rate borrowings (6) | 1,650,748 | 2,000 | | | | 1,720 | 1,654,468 | 1,650,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 5.23% | 5.48% | | | | 8.55% | 5.24% | | |
| | \$7,310,663 | \$1,019,785 | \$ 512,694 | \$ 496,660 | \$341,516 | \$3,535,911 | \$13,217,229 | \$13,200,000 | |
| Weighted average rate | 4.21% | 3.46% | 2.49% | 2.80% | 1.68% | 1.31% | 3.19% | | |

Assumptions:

- (1) Amounts are based on

contractual
payments and
maturities,
adjusted for
expected
prepayments.

- (2) Amounts are based on contractual maturities; adjusted for expected prepayments on mortgage-backed securities and expected calls on agency and municipal securities.
- (3) Amounts are based on contractual maturities of time deposits.
- (4) These deposit accounts are placed based on history of deposit flows.
- (5) Amounts are based on contractual maturities of debt instruments, adjusted for possible calls.
- (6) Amounts include Federal Funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase, which mature in less than 90 days, and junior subordinated

deferrable interest
debentures.

- (7) Floating rate
loans include
adjustable rate
mortgages.
- (8) Line of credit
amounts are
based on
historical cash
flow assumptions,
with an average
life of
approximately
5 years.

The preceding table and discussion addressed the liquidity implications of interest rate risk and focused on expected contractual cash flows from financial instruments. Expected maturities, however, do not necessarily estimate the net interest income impact of interest rate changes. Certain financial instruments,

Table of Contents

such as adjustable rate loans, have repricing periods that differ from expected cash flows. Fair value adjustments related to acquisitions are not included in the preceding table.

The Corporation uses three complementary methods to measure and manage interest rate risk. They are static gap analysis, simulation of earnings, and estimates of economic value of equity. Using these measurements in tandem provides a reasonably comprehensive summary of the magnitude of interest rate risk in the Corporation, level of risk as time evolves, and exposure to changes in interest rate relationships.

Static gap provides a measurement of repricing risk in the Corporation's balance sheet as of a point in time. This measurement is accomplished through stratification of the Corporation's assets and liabilities into predetermined repricing periods. The sum of assets and liabilities in each of these periods are summed and compared for mismatches within that maturity segment. Core deposits having no contractual maturities are placed into repricing periods based upon historical balance performance. Repricing for mortgage loans and for mortgage-backed securities includes the effect of expected cash flows. Estimated prepayment effects are applied to these balances based upon industry projections for prepayment speeds. The Corporation's policy limits the cumulative six-month gap to plus or minus 15% of total rate sensitive earning assets. The cumulative six-month gap as of September 30, 2006 was a negative 4.1% and the cumulative six-month ratio of rate sensitive assets to rate sensitive liabilities (RSA/RSL) was 0.91.

Simulation of net interest income and net income is performed for the next twelve-month period. A variety of interest rate scenarios are used to measure the effects of sudden and gradual movements upward and downward in the yield curve. These results are compared to the results obtained in a flat or unchanged interest rate scenario. Simulation of earnings is used primarily to measure the Corporation's short-term earnings exposure to rate movements given a static balance sheet. The Corporation's policy limits the potential exposure of net interest income to 10% of the base case net interest income for every 100 basis point shock in interest rates. A shock is an immediate upward or downward movement of interest rates across the yield curve based upon changes in the prime rate. The shocks do not take into account changes in customer behavior that could result in changes to mix and/or volumes in the balance sheet nor do they account for competitive pricing over the forward 12-month period. As of September 30, 2006, the potential exposure of net interest income was within 10% of the base case net interest income for all 100 basis point shocks in interest rates.

Economic value of equity estimates the discounted present value of asset cash flows and liability cash flows. Discount rates are based upon market prices for like assets and liabilities. Upward and downward shocks of interest rates are used to determine the comparative effect of such interest rate movements relative to the unchanged environment. This measurement tool is used primarily to evaluate the longer-term re-pricing risks and options in the Corporation's balance sheet. A policy limit of 10% of economic equity may be at risk for every 100 basis point shock movement in interest rates. As of September 30, 2006, the Corporation was within policy limits for every basis point shock movement in interest rates.

Table of Contents

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

The Corporation carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Corporation's management, including the Corporation's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13a-15. Based upon that evaluation, the Corporation's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report, the Corporation's disclosure controls and procedures are effective. Disclosure controls and procedures are controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in Corporation reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms. There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the fiscal quarter covered by this quarterly report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

PART II OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Not applicable.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Information responsive to this item as of December 31, 2005 appears as Exhibit 99.1 to the Corporation's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005. There was no material change in such information as of September 30, 2006.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

Not applicable.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities and Use of Proceeds

Not applicable.

Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information

Not applicable.

Item 6. Exhibits

See Exhibit Index for a list of the exhibits required by Item 601 of Regulation S-K and filed as part of this report.

Table of Contents

**FULTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
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.

FULTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION

Date: November 9, 2006

/s/ R. Scott Smith, Jr.
R. Scott Smith, Jr.
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and
President

Date: November 9, 2006

/s/ Charles J. Nugent
Charles J. Nugent
Senior Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
46

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX
Exhibits Required Pursuant
to Item 601 of Regulation S-K

- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

47