

FIRST COMMUNITY BANCORP /CA/  
Form S-4  
July 26, 2006  
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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 26, 2006.

Registration No. 333-

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# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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## FORM S-4

### REGISTRATION STATEMENT

*UNDER*

*THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933*

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# FIRST COMMUNITY BANCORP

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**California**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**6712**  
(Primary Standard Industrial  
Classification Code Number)

**33-0885320**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

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**6110 El Tordo**

**PO Box 2388**

**Rancho Santa Fe, California 92067**

**(858) 756-3023**

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices)

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**Jared M. Wolff, Esq.**

**Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary**

**120 Wilshire Boulevard**

**Santa Monica, California 90401**

**(310) 458-1521**

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

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*Copies To:*

**Patrick S. Brown, Esq.  
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP  
1888 Century Park East  
Los Angeles, California 90067  
(310) 712-6600**

**John Stuart, Esq.  
Reitner, Stuart & Moore  
1319 Marsh Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
(805) 545-8590**

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**Approximate date of commencement of the proposed sale of the securities to the public:** As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement and upon consummation of the transactions described herein.

If the securities being registered on this Form are being offered in connection with the formation of a holding company and there is compliance with General Instruction G, check the following box. "

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

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<b>Title of each class of securities to be registered</b>	<b>Amount to be registered<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Proposed maximum offering price per share</b>	<b>Proposed maximum aggregate offering price<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Amount of registration fee<sup>(2)</sup></b>
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Common Stock, no par value	4,612,820	n/a	\$ 249,029,498	\$ 26,647
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- (1) Represents the maximum number of shares of First Community Bancorp common stock, no par value per share, estimated to be issuable upon completion of the merger of Community Bancorp Inc. with and into First Community (based on the number of shares of common stock, par value \$0.625 per share, of Community Bancorp outstanding on July 20, 2006 and assuming the exercise of an estimated 150,000 options to purchase Community Bancorp common stock prior to closing).
  - (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee required by Section 6(b) of the Securities Act and computed pursuant to Rule 457(c) and 457(f)(1) of the Securities Act. The proposed maximum offering price is equal to the product of (a) \$39.68, the average of the high and low prices per share of the common stock of Community Bancorp as reported on the Nasdaq National Market on July 19, 2006, and (b) the maximum number of shares of Community Bancorp common stock to be cancelled pursuant to the merger (calculated as 6,275,945 which includes the number of shares of Community Bancorp common stock outstanding (6,125,945) as of July 20, 2006 and assumes the exercise of an estimated 150,000 options to purchase Community Bancorp common stock prior to closing).
- 

**The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment that specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until this registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.**

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**The information in this document is not complete and may change. First Community Bancorp may not issue the securities being offered by use of this document until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, of which this document is a part, is effective. This document is not an offer to sell these securities, nor is it soliciting offers to buy these securities, in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.**

**PRELIMINARY SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED JULY 26, 2006**

**PROPOSED MERGER YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT**

The boards of directors of First Community Bancorp and Community Bancorp Inc. have both unanimously approved a merger agreement between First Community and Community Bancorp pursuant to which Community Bancorp will be merged with and into First Community.

If the merger is completed, Community Bancorp stockholders will receive 0.735 of a share of First Community common stock for each of their shares of Community Bancorp common stock, subject to certain adjustments described in this document. The exchange ratio may be adjusted based on whether the average closing price of First Community common stock remains within a 15% collar as measured during a measurement period prior to the closing of the transaction. If such average price is outside the collar, and if the change in such price is disproportionate to an agreed upon banking index, the merger agreement may be terminated, in the case of a significant increase, by First Community unless the exchange ratio is adjusted by Community Bancorp, and may be terminated, in the case of a significant decline, by Community Bancorp unless the exchange ratio is adjusted by First Community. You should read the section entitled "The Merger Merger Consideration," starting on page 35 of this joint proxy statement-prospectus.

We are asking the Community Bancorp stockholders to adopt the merger agreement. We are asking First Community shareholders to approve a proposal to amend the bylaws of First Community to provide that the number of directors on the First Community board will range from seven to fifteen with the exact number at any time to be determined by resolution of the board of directors. This amendment to the bylaws will, among other things, allow First Community to fulfill its obligation under the merger agreement to appoint two members of the Community Bancorp board of directors to the First Community board of directors at completion of the merger. First Community's shareholders are not being asked to vote on the merger itself. *Each company's board of directors unanimously recommends that the holders of its common stock vote FOR the applicable proposal.*

First Community common stock is listed on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol FCBP. Community Bancorp common stock is listed on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol CMBC. On \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, First Community common stock closed at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per share and Community Bancorp common stock closed at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per share.

First Community and Community Bancorp have scheduled meetings to vote on these matters. The date, time and place of the meetings are:

FOR FIRST COMMUNITY SHAREHOLDERS  
[Date] [Time]

FOR COMMUNITY BANCORP STOCKHOLDERS  
[Date] [Time]

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[Place]  
[Address]  
[City], California [zip]

[Place]  
[Address]  
[City], California [zip]

Only holders of record as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006 are entitled to attend and vote at the applicable meeting. This document describes the meetings, the proposed merger and other related matters of First Community and Community Bancorp. **Please read this entire document carefully, including the section discussing Risk Factors beginning on page 21.** The joint proxy statement-prospectus incorporates important business and financial information and risk factors about the companies that is not included in or delivered with this document. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) on page 97.

Your vote is important. Whether or not you plan to attend your company's meeting, please take the time to vote by completing and mailing the enclosed proxy card, or, if you are a Community Bancorp stockholder, by voting via the Internet or telephone according to the instructions on the proxy card. If you sign, date and mail your proxy card without indicating how you want to vote, your proxy will be counted as a vote FOR the merger proposal if you are a Community Bancorp stockholder and the proposal to amend the bylaws if you are a First Community shareholder. **Whether or not you plan to attend your company's meeting, please vote as soon as possible to make sure that your shares are represented at the meeting. Voting by proxy will not prevent you from voting in person if you choose to attend your company's meeting. However, if you do not vote, it will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal if you are a Community Bancorp stockholder and against the proposal to amend the bylaws if you are a First Community shareholder.**

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**Matthew P. Wagner**

*President and Chief Executive Officer*

*First Community Bancorp*

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**Michael J. Perdue**

*President and Chief Executive Officer*

*Community Bancorp Inc.*

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Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the shares to be issued under this joint proxy statement-prospectus or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this joint proxy statement-prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The securities offered through this document are not savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

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This joint proxy statement-prospectus is dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2006

and was first mailed on or about \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

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**6110 El Tordo**

**PO Box 2388**

**Rancho Santa Fe, California 92067**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

**TO BE HELD** , 2006

**TO FIRST COMMUNITY SHAREHOLDERS:**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that First Community Bancorp will hold a special meeting of its shareholders on , 2006 at , local time, at , for the following purposes:

1. **Amendment to the Company Bylaws.** To consider and vote on a proposal to amend First Community s bylaws to provide that the number of directors on the First Community board will range from seven to fifteen with the exact number at any time to be determined by resolution of the board of directors.
2. **Adjournments.** To consider and vote on a proposal to approve, if necessary, adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies.

We more fully describe the bylaw amendment and the merger in the attached joint proxy statement-prospectus, which you should read carefully and in its entirety before voting. A copy of the merger agreement is included as Appendix A to the accompanying joint proxy statement-prospectus.

The board of directors has fixed the close of business on , 2006 as the record date for determining which shareholders have the right to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

**YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND FIRST COMMUNITY S BYLAWS AS DESCRIBED ABOVE, WHICH IS DESCRIBED IN DETAIL IN THE ACCOMPANYING JOINT PROXY STATEMENT-PROSPECTUS.**

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**Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, please mark, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card in the enclosed envelope so that as many shares as possible may be represented at the meeting.** Your vote is important and we appreciate your cooperation in returning promptly your executed proxy card. Your proxy is revocable and will not affect your right to vote in person at the special meeting.

If you plan to attend, please note that admission to the special meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Each shareholder may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport. Shareholders holding stock in brokerage accounts (street name holders) will need to bring a copy of a brokerage account statement reflecting stock ownership as of the record date. Cameras, recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting.

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**Jared M. Wolff, *Corporate Secretary***

**Rancho Santa Fe, California**

**, 2006**

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900 Canterbury Place, Suite 300

Escondido, California 92025

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**TO BE HELD** , 2006

**TO COMMUNITY BANCORP STOCKHOLDERS:**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Community Bancorp Inc. will hold a special meeting of its stockholders on , 2006 at , local time, at , California, for the following purposes:

1. **Approval of Merger.** To consider and vote on a proposal to adopt the Agreement and Plan of Merger by and between First Community Bancorp and Community Bancorp Inc., dated as of May 15, 2006.
2. **Adjournments.** To consider and vote on a proposal to approve, if necessary, adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies.

We more fully describe the merger proposal and the merger in the attached joint proxy statement-prospectus, which you should read carefully and in its entirety before voting. A copy of the merger agreement is included as Appendix A to the accompanying joint proxy statement-prospectus.

The board of directors has fixed the close of business on , 2006 as the record date for determining which stockholders have the right to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

**YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS DETERMINED THAT THE MERGER IS FAIR TO AND IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF COMMUNITY BANCORP AND ITS STOCKHOLDERS AND UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED MERGER AGREEMENT.**

**YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEETING, YOU SHOULD MARK, SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED PROXY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE OR VOTE BY TELEPHONE OR THE INTERNET.** Returning the enclosed proxy or voting by telephone or over the Internet will assure that your vote will be counted and it will not prevent you from voting in person if you choose to attend the special meeting.



**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**Richard M. Sanborn, *Corporate Secretary***

**Escondido, California**

**, 2006**

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**Sources of Additional Information**

This document incorporates important business and financial information about First Community and Community Bancorp from documents that are not included in or delivered with this document. This information is available to you without charge upon your written or oral request. You can obtain documents related to First Community and Community Bancorp that are incorporated by reference in this document, without charge, through the website of the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, at <http://www.sec.gov> or by requesting them in writing or by telephone from the appropriate company.

First Community Bancorp  
Attn: Investor Relations  
275 N. Brea Blvd.  
Brea, California 92821  
[www.firstcommunitybancorp.com](http://www.firstcommunitybancorp.com)  
Phone: (714) 671-6800

Community Bancorp Inc.  
Attn: Investor Relations  
900 Canterbury Place, Suite 300  
Escondido, California 92025  
[www.mycnbonline.com](http://www.mycnbonline.com)  
Phone: (760) 432-1100

(All website addresses given in this document are for information only and are not intended to be an active link or to incorporate any website information into this document.)

Please note that copies of the documents provided to you will not include exhibits, unless the exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into the documents or this document.

**In order to receive timely delivery of requested documents in advance of your meeting, you should make your request no later than , 2006.**

All information contained in this joint proxy statement-prospectus with respect to Community Bancorp has been supplied by Community Bancorp. All information contained in this joint proxy statement-prospectus with respect to First Community has been supplied by First Community.

You should rely only on the information provided or incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement-prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this joint proxy statement-prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of the document.

**See Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 97.**

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**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

*Q: What am I being asked to vote on?*

A: If you are a Community Bancorp stockholder, you are being asked to vote on the adoption of the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 15, 2006, between First Community and Community Bancorp. In addition, you are being asked to vote on a proposal to approve, if necessary, adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies in favor of the merger proposal.

If you are a First Community shareholder, you are being asked to vote to approve an amendment to First Community's bylaws to provide that the number of directors on the First Community board will range from seven to fifteen with the exact number at any time to be determined by resolution of the board of directors. Currently, the bylaws provide that the First Community board will range from seven to twelve directors, and there are eleven members of the board. The amendment to the bylaws will, among other things, allow First Community to fulfill its obligation under the merger agreement to appoint two members of the Community Bancorp board of directors to the First Community board of directors at completion of the merger. In addition, you are being asked to vote on a proposal to approve, if necessary, adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies in favor of the proposal to amend the bylaws. First Community shareholders are not being asked to vote on the merger itself.

*Q: What do I need to do now?*

A: In order to ensure that your shares are represented and voted at the First Community special meeting or the Community Bancorp special meeting:

Carefully read this joint proxy statement-prospectus;

If you are a First Community shareholder, just indicate on your proxy card how you want your shares to be voted, then sign, date and mail the proxy card in the enclosed prepaid return envelope marked Proxy, as soon as possible; or

If you are a Community Bancorp stockholder, just indicate on your proxy card how you want your shares voted and then sign, date and mail the proxy card in the enclosed prepaid return envelope marked Proxy or vote your shares by telephone or via the Internet, in accordance with the instructions set forth on your proxy card, as soon as possible.

*Q: Who is entitled to vote?*

A: Community Bancorp stockholders of record at the close of business on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, or the record date, are entitled to receive notice of and to vote on matters that come before the Community Bancorp special meeting and any adjournments or postponements of the Community Bancorp special meeting. First Community shareholders of record at the close of business on the record date are entitled to receive notice of and to vote on matters that come before the First Community special meeting and any adjournments and postponements of the First Community special meeting.

*Q: What shareholder approvals are needed?*

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- A: The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Community Bancorp common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting is required to adopt the merger agreement. As of the record date, the directors and officers of Community Bancorp beneficially owned, in the aggregate, approximately % of the outstanding shares of Community Bancorp common stock (which does not include shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options that were not outstanding as of the record date). They have agreed to vote these shares in favor of the merger proposal.

In addition, an amendment to the First Community bylaws to provide for a range of directorships from seven to fifteen with the exact number at any time to be determined by board resolution must be approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of First Community common stock entitled to vote at the First Community special meeting. No vote of First Community shareholders on the merger itself is required. However, it is a

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condition to the parties' obligations under the merger agreement that First Community shareholders approve the proposal to amend the bylaws. Accordingly, we cannot complete the merger unless the bylaw amendment is approved or the parties agree to waive that condition. As of the record date, the directors of First Community beneficially owned, in the aggregate, approximately % of the outstanding shares of First Community common stock (which does not include shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options or shares held under First Community's Deferred Compensation Plan which the directors and officers were not entitled to vote as of the record date). They have agreed to vote these shares in favor of the proposal to amend the First Community bylaws.

*Q: How many votes do I have?*

A: Each holder is entitled to one vote for each share recorded in the holder's name on the books of First Community or Community Bancorp, as applicable, as of the record date on any matter submitted for a vote at the special meetings or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

*Q: How will voting on any other business be conducted at the First Community or Community Bancorp special meetings?*

A: First Community does not know of any business to be considered at the special meeting other than that described above. If any other business not included in this document is properly presented at the special meeting, any of the persons named on the proxy card as your designated proxies may vote on such matter in their discretion.

Community Bancorp does not know of any business to be considered at the special meeting other than that described above. If any other business not included in this document is properly presented at the special meeting, the persons named on the proxy card as your designated proxies may vote on such matter in their discretion.

*Q: Why is my vote important?*

A: If you do not return your proxy card at or prior to the appropriate meeting (or, if you are a Community Bancorp stockholder, you also do not vote by telephone or via the Internet), it will be more difficult for First Community and Community Bancorp to obtain the necessary quorum to hold their meetings. In addition, if you are a Community Bancorp stockholder and you fail to vote, it will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal and, if you are a First Community shareholder and you fail to vote, it will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal to amend its bylaws.

*Q: Can I change my vote after I have mailed my signed proxy card?*

A: Yes. If you have not voted through your broker, there are three ways for you to revoke your proxy and change your vote. First, you may send a written notice to the corporate secretary of your company stating that you would like to revoke your proxy, which notice must be received prior to the meeting date. Second, you may complete and submit a new proxy card, but it must bear a later date than the original proxy or, if you are a Community Bancorp stockholder, you may vote by telephone or via the Internet on a date subsequent to your prior vote. Third, you may vote in person at your company's meeting. If you have instructed a broker to vote your shares, you must follow the directions you receive from your broker to change your vote. Your last vote will be the vote that is counted.

In the event you choose to revoke or amend prior instructions, we recommend that you revoke or amend them in the same way you initially gave them—that is, by telephone, internet or in writing. This will help to ensure that your shares are voted the way you have finally determined you wish them to be voted.

*Q: If my shares are held in street name by my broker, will my broker vote my shares for me?*

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- A: Without instructions from you, your broker cannot vote your shares on the merger proposal and the proposal to amend First Community's bylaws. If your shares are held in street name, you should instruct your broker as to how to vote your shares, following the instructions contained in the voting instructions card that your broker provides to you. Without instructions, your shares will not be voted,

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which will have the same effect as if you voted against the merger proposal and the proposal to amend First Community's bylaws.

*Q: If I hold shares of either company pursuant to either the First Community 401(k) Plan or the Community National Bank 401(k) Plan, will I be able to vote?*

A: Yes. You should instruct the 401(k) plan trustee how to vote the shares allocated to your plan account, following the instructions contained in the voting instructions card that the plan administrator provides to you.

*Q: What if I don't vote?*

A: If you fail to respond or if you respond and vote "abstain", it will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal, if you are a Community Bancorp stockholder, and the proposal to amend the bylaws, if you are a First Community shareholder. If you respond and do not indicate how you want to vote, your proxy will be counted as a vote in favor of your meeting's proposals.

*Q: I own shares of both First Community and Community Bancorp common stock. Should I only vote once?*

A: No. If you own shares of both companies, you will receive separate proxy cards for each meeting. It is important that you vote at both meetings, so please complete, sign, date and return your First Community proxy card as instructed and complete, sign, date and return your Community Bancorp proxy card as instructed, or vote by telephone or via the Internet.

*Q: What risks should I consider before I vote on the merger proposal?*

A: We encourage you to read carefully the detailed information about the merger contained in this joint proxy statement-prospectus, including the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 21 and other factors that are discussed in documents that the parties have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and which are incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement-prospectus.

*Q: Do I have appraisal or dissenters' rights if I object to the merger?*

A: No. As a holder of Community Bancorp common stock, you are not entitled to appraisal rights under the Delaware General Corporation Law in connection with the merger. Furthermore, holders of First Community common stock are not entitled to dissenters' rights under California General Corporation Law in connection with the merger.

*Q: Should I send in my stock certificates now?*

A: No. After the merger is completed, we will send Community Bancorp stockholders written instructions for exchanging their stock certificates for First Community stock certificates. First Community shareholders will keep their existing stock certificates.

*Q: Whom should I contact with questions about the meetings or the merger?*

A: First Community shareholders may contact:

First Community Bancorp



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120 Wilshire Blvd.

Santa Monica, CA 90401

Attn: Corporate Secretary

(310) 458-1521

Community Bancorp stockholders may contact:

Community Bancorp Inc.

900 Canterbury Place, Suite 300

Escondido, CA 92025

Attn: Corporate Secretary

(760) 432-1100

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**SUMMARY**

This section briefly summarizes selected information in this joint proxy statement-prospectus and does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. You should carefully read this entire document and the other documents which are incorporated herein. See **Where You Can Find More Information** beginning on page 97. Unless we have stated otherwise, all references in this document to **First Community** are to **First Community Bancorp**; all references to **Community Bancorp** are to **Community Bancorp Inc.**; all references to the merger agreement or plan of merger are to the **Agreement and Plan of Merger by and between First Community and Community Bancorp**, dated as of May 15, 2006, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to this document; all references to the merger are to the merger between **First Community and Community Bancorp**; and all references to the bank merger are to the merger between **First National Bank and Community National Bank**. Each item in this summary contains a page reference directing you to a more complete description of that item. References to **we**, **our** and **us** in this summary mean **First Community and Community Bancorp together**.

*The Companies (Pages 69,72)*

*First Community Bancorp*

*6110 El Tordo*

*PO Box 2388*

*Rancho Santa Fe, California 92067*

*(858) 756-3023*

First Community's principal business is to serve as a holding company for its banking subsidiaries, Pacific Western National Bank and First National Bank. Through its banks' 57 full-service community banking branches, First Community provides commercial banking services, including real estate, construction and commercial loans, to small and medium-sized businesses. Pacific Western is a federally chartered commercial bank that serves the commercial, industrial, professional, real estate and private banking markets through a network of 42 branches throughout Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties and 1 branch in San Francisco, California. First National Bank is a federally chartered commercial bank that serves the commercial, real estate, construction, small business, international and private banking markets through a network of 14 branches across San Diego County. First National Bank provides working capital financing to growing companies located throughout the Southwest, primarily in the states of Arizona, California and Texas, through its subsidiary First Community Financial.

As of June 30, 2006, First Community had total consolidated assets of approximately \$4.6 billion, total consolidated loans, net of unearned income, of approximately \$3.4 billion, total consolidated deposits of approximately \$3.2 billion and total consolidated shareholders' equity of approximately \$876.9 million. First Community had 841 full time equivalent employees on June 30, 2006.

*Community Bancorp Inc.*

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*900 Canterbury Place, Suite 300*

*Escondido, California 92025*

*(760) 432-1100*

Community Bancorp's principal business is to serve as a holding company for its banking subsidiary, Community National Bank. Community National is a federally chartered commercial bank headquartered in Escondido, California and focuses primarily on community banking by providing commercial banking services including commercial, real estate and SBA loans to small and medium sized businesses. Community National serves San Diego County and southwest Riverside County with 12 community banking offices in Bonsall, Corona, El Cajon, Encinitas, Escondido, Fallbrook, La Mesa, Murrieta, Rancho Bernardo, Santee, Temecula and Vista, California and has additional SBA loan production offices that originate loans in California, Arizona, Nevada and Oregon.

As of June 30, 2006, Community Bancorp had total consolidated assets of approximately \$896.8 million, total consolidated deposits of approximately \$699.4 million and total consolidated stockholders' equity of approximately \$103.2 million. Community Bancorp had 255 active full time equivalent employees on June 30, 2006.

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### ***The Merger (Page 36)***

We propose a merger in which Community Bancorp will merge with and into First Community. Subsequently, Community National Bank, a wholly owned subsidiary of Community Bancorp, will merge with and into First National Bank, a wholly owned subsidiary of First Community. As a result of the merger, Community Bancorp will cease to exist as a separate corporation and each Community Bancorp stockholder will become a shareholder of First Community. When the merger is completed, Community Bancorp stockholders will receive 0.735 of a share of First Community common stock in exchange for each share of Community Bancorp common stock, subject to possible adjustment as described below.

An adjustment to the exchange ratio may occur if (1) the average closing price of First Community common stock (which we refer to as the First Community average closing price) measured over a 15 trading day period ending on the second trading day prior to the closing date of the merger (which we refer to as the closing measuring period) is greater than \$66.69 or less than \$49.29, and (2) the percentage increase or decline represented by the change between the First Community average closing price and an initial price for First Community common stock (specified as \$57.99 in the merger agreement) is sufficiently disproportionate to the percentage increase or decline represented by the change between the average closing price for the KBW Bank Index over the closing measuring period (which we refer to as the KBW Bank Index average closing price) and an initial KBW Bank Index price (specified as 111.48 in the merger agreement).

Specifically, if the First Community average closing price is greater than \$66.69 per share, and that represents a 15% or greater increase over the change in the KBW Bank Index measured as described above, First Community may terminate the merger agreement unless Community Bancorp agrees to adjust the exchange ratio by multiplying the exchange ratio of 0.735 by the quotient obtained by dividing \$66.69 by the First Community average closing price. On the other hand, if the First Community average closing price is less than \$49.29 per share, and that represents a 15% or greater decline over the change in the KBW Bank Index measured as described above, Community Bancorp may terminate the merger agreement unless First Community agrees to adjust the exchange ratio by multiplying the exchange ratio of 0.735 by the quotient obtained by dividing \$49.29 by the First Community average closing price.

You should read and understand the section entitled *The Merger Merger Consideration*, beginning on page 35 of this document.

The closing date will occur on the third business day after the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions to the consummation of the merger summarized below on page 9. However, the closing date may be set on any other date on which First Community and Community Bancorp may mutually agree.

### ***The Special Meeting of Community Bancorp Stockholders (Page 27)***

*Date, Time and Place.* The special meeting of Community Bancorp stockholders will be held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006 at \_\_\_\_\_, local time, at \_\_\_\_\_.

*Purpose of the Special Meeting.* At the special meeting, you will be asked to consider and vote on a proposal to adopt the merger agreement between First Community and Community Bancorp and to consider and act on other matters properly brought before the special meeting. In addition, you are being asked to vote on a proposal to approve, if necessary, adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies in favor of the merger proposal.

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*Record Date; Shares Entitled to Vote.* You can vote at the Community Bancorp special meeting if you owned Community Bancorp common stock at the close of business on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006. On that date, there were \_\_\_\_\_ shares of common stock of Community Bancorp outstanding and entitled to vote. Each Community Bancorp stockholder can cast one vote for each share of common stock of Community Bancorp he or she owned on that date.

*Vote Required.* Adoption of the merger agreement requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Community

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Bancorp common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting. Not voting, voting abstain or failing to instruct your broker how to vote shares held for you in the broker's name will have the same effect as voting against the merger proposal. If you submit a signed proxy card without indicating a vote with respect to the merger, that proxy card will be deemed a vote in favor of the merger proposal and the proposal to approve, if necessary, adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies in favor of the merger proposal.

At close of business on the record date, the directors and officers of Community Bancorp beneficially owned, in the aggregate, approximately \_\_\_\_\_ shares of Community Bancorp common stock, allowing them to exercise approximately \_\_\_\_\_ % of the voting power of Community Bancorp common stock entitled to vote at the Community Bancorp special meeting (which does not include shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options that were not outstanding as of the record date). These stockholders have agreed to vote these shares in favor of the merger proposal, as more fully described in The Merger Agreement Shareholder Agreements beginning on page 68.

### ***The Community Bancorp Board of Directors Unanimously Recommends that You Adopt the Plan of Merger (Page 29)***

After careful consideration, the Community Bancorp board of directors unanimously adopted the plan of merger.

Based on Community Bancorp's reasons for the merger described in this document, including, among other things, the fairness opinion of Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc., or KBW, Community Bancorp's financial advisor, the Community Bancorp board of directors believes that the merger is fair to and in the best interests of Community Bancorp's stockholders and unanimously recommends that they vote **FOR** the proposal to adopt the merger agreement.

### ***Opinion of Community Bancorp's Financial Advisor (Page 40)***

Among other factors considered in deciding to approve the merger, the Community Bancorp board of directors received the oral and written opinion dated May 15, 2006, of KBW that as of that date and based on and subject to the factors and assumptions set forth in its written opinion, the consideration to be received by stockholders of Community Bancorp in the merger was fair to the stockholders of Community Bancorp from a financial point of view. The written opinion of KBW dated as of May 15, 2006 is attached as Appendix B. You should read this opinion completely to understand the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered and qualifications and limitations of the review undertaken by KBW in rendering its opinion.

### ***The Special Meeting of First Community Shareholders (Page 32)***

*Date, Time and Place.* The special meeting of First Community shareholders will be held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006 at \_\_\_\_\_, local time, at \_\_\_\_\_.

*Purpose of the Special Meeting.* At the special meeting, you will be asked to consider and vote on a proposal to amend the bylaws of First Community to provide that the number of directors on the First Community board will range from seven to fifteen with the exact number at any time to be determined by resolution of the board of directors and to consider and act on other matters properly brought before the special meeting. In addition, you are being asked to vote on a proposal to approve, if necessary, adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to

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solicit additional proxies in favor of the proposal to amend the bylaws.

*Record Date; Shares Entitled to Vote.* You can vote at the First Community special meeting if you owned First Community common stock at the close of business on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006. On that date, there were \_\_\_\_\_ shares of common stock of First Community outstanding and entitled to vote.

*Vote Required.* Approval of the proposal to amend the bylaws of First Community requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of First Community common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting.

Not voting, voting abstain or failing to instruct your broker how to vote shares held for you in the

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broker's name will have the same effect as voting against the proposal to amend First Community's bylaws. If you submit a signed proxy card without indicating a vote with respect to any one of the proposals, that proxy card will be deemed a vote in favor of the proposal to amend the bylaws and the proposal to approve, if necessary, adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies in favor of the proposal to amend the bylaws.

No vote of First Community shareholders on the merger itself is required. However, it is a condition to the parties' obligations under the merger agreement that First Community shareholders approve the proposal to amend the bylaws. Accordingly, we cannot complete the merger unless the bylaw amendment is approved or the parties agree to waive that condition.

At close of business on the record date, the directors of First Community beneficially owned, in the aggregate, approximately \_\_\_\_\_ shares of First Community common stock, allowing them to exercise approximately \_\_\_\_\_ % of the voting power of First Community common stock entitled to vote at the First Community special meeting (which does not include shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options or shares held under First Community's Deferred Compensation Plan which the directors and officers were not entitled to vote as of the record date). These shareholders have agreed to vote these shares in favor of the proposal to amend First Community's bylaws as more fully described in The Merger Agreement Shareholder Agreements beginning on page 68.

### *The First Community Board of Directors Unanimously Recommends that You Approve the Proposal to Amend the First Community Bylaws (Page 34)*

The First Community board of directors unanimously recommends that its shareholders vote **FOR** approval of the proposal to amend the First Community bylaws.

### *Material United States Federal Income Tax Considerations (Page 47)*

The merger is intended to constitute a reorganization within the meaning of section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Therefore, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, as a result of the merger Community Bancorp stockholders generally will not recognize gain or loss on the receipt of First Community common stock. Community Bancorp stockholders will, however, recognize gain or loss in connection with cash received in lieu of fractional shares of First Community common stock. The merger is conditioned on the receipt of legal opinions of counsel of First Community and of Community Bancorp to the effect that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the merger will be treated as a reorganization within the meaning of section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and that each of First Community and Community Bancorp will be a party to that reorganization within the meaning of section 368(b) of the Internal Revenue Code.

For a complete description of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the transaction, see The Merger Material United States Federal Income Tax Considerations of the Merger, on page 47.

Tax matters are very complicated and the consequences of the merger to any particular stockholder will depend on that stockholder's particular facts and circumstances. You are urged to consult your own tax advisor to determine your own tax consequences from the merger.



*Recent Developments (Pages 69,72)*

On May 3, 2006, First Community announced an increase in its quarterly dividend to \$0.32 per share of First Community common stock, as well as the First Community board of directors' authorization of the repurchase of up to 1,000,000 shares of First Community common stock during the following 12 months. On May 9, 2006, First Community acquired all of the outstanding common stock and options of Foothill Independent Bancorp, or Foothill, for approximately \$244 million in consideration consisting of First Community common stock for the outstanding shares of Foothill common stock and cash for outstanding Foothill stock options. In the merger, each share of Foothill common stock was converted into the right to receive 0.4523 of a share of First Community common stock. Foothill

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Independent Bank, a wholly owned subsidiary of Foothill, offered a full range of commercial banking services through 12 branches in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside County. As of March 31, 2006, Foothill had approximately \$750 million in assets. Upon completion of the acquisition, Foothill Independent Bank merged into Pacific Western, adding 11 branches to the Pacific Western branch network. Upon the closing of the merger on May 9, 2006, Foothill Independent Bank's additional branch, located in Temecula, California, was sold by Pacific Western to First National Bank. For more information, see *Information about First Community* beginning on page 69.

On July 19, 2006, each of First Community and Community Bancorp issued a press release announcing their results for the quarter ending June 30, 2006. First Community announced net earnings for the quarter ended June 30, 2006 of \$14.5 million or \$0.64 per diluted share. These amounts compare with net earnings of \$11.8 million, or \$0.72 per diluted share, for the quarter ended June 30, 2005, and net earnings of \$17.4 million, or \$0.88 per diluted share, for the first quarter of 2006. The increase in net earnings compared to last year resulted primarily from increased net interest income due to acquisitions and organic loan growth and net interest margin expansion, partially offset by increased credit loss provision and higher noninterest expense associated with business growth. The decrease in net earnings and diluted earnings per share for the second quarter of 2006 from the first quarter of 2006 is due to a credit loss provision.

Community Bancorp announced that earnings for the first half of 2006 increased 20.1% to \$6.5 million compared to \$5.4 million for the comparable period last year. Factors contributing to the increase in net income for the six months included the Rancho Bernardo Bank acquisition, an increase in the net interest margin, and continued strong credit quality offset by a 29.4% decrease in other operating income. Basic and diluted earnings per share of \$1.07 and \$1.03, respectively, for the first half of 2006 were comparable to the \$1.02 and \$0.97 for the comparable period in 2005 reflecting the 639,000 share increase resulting from the Rancho Bernardo Bank acquisition.

For more information, see *Information about First Community Recent Developments* beginning on page 69 and *Information about Community Bancorp Recent Developments* beginning on page 72, respectively.

### ***Community Bancorp's Executive Officers and Directors Have Interests in the Merger that May Differ From, or are in Addition to, the Interests of Community Bancorp's Stockholders in the Merger (Page 49)***

You should be aware that Community Bancorp's executive officers and directors have interests in the merger that may be different from, or are in addition to, the interest of Community Bancorp stockholders generally. These interests include, but are not limited to, severance compensation, that is payable pursuant to pre-existing change of control agreements, as a result of the consummation of the merger, the continuation of certain insurance benefits, cash payments to directors and First Community offers of employment to some of those executive officers. First Community also has agreed to indemnify officers and directors of Community Bancorp and to continue their directors and officers' liability insurance. Four senior officers of Community Bancorp have agreed to accept positions with First National Bank upon completion of the merger. In addition, First Community has agreed to appoint Gary W. Deems, chairman of Community Bancorp, and Mark N. Baker, vice chairman of Community Bancorp, to the First Community board of directors upon completion of the merger.

### ***Procedures for Exchange of Community Bancorp Common Stock for the Merger Consideration (Page 55)***

Holders of Community Bancorp stock certificates will be required to surrender those stock certificates before they will be issued the consideration to which they are entitled in the merger. After the merger is consummated, each Community Bancorp stock certificate will be deemed to represent solely the number of shares of First Community common stock and cash (for any fractional shares) that the holder of the stock certificate is entitled to receive in the merger.



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**Do not send your Community Bancorp stock certificates in the envelope provided for returning your proxy card. The stock certificates should only be forwarded to the exchange agent with the letter of transmittal form which will be mailed to you shortly after the merger is consummated.**

*Conditions to Completion of the Merger (Page 64)*

The completion of the merger depends on a number of conditions being met, including:

approval of the merger proposal by Community Bancorp stockholders and approval of the amendment to the First Community bylaws to expand its board of directors by First Community shareholders;

receipt of required regulatory approvals for the merger and the bank merger, including that of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, or OCC, without certain materially adverse or harmful restrictions or conditions (on July 11, 2006, First Community and Community Bancorp obtained the approval of the OCC for the bank merger);

Community Bancorp having an adjusted total stockholders' equity and allowance for loan losses of not less than \$96.2 million and \$9.7 million, respectively, as of the last business day of the last month before closing of the merger;

absence of an injunction or regulatory prohibition to completion of the merger;

receipt by each party of an opinion from such party's tax counsel to the effect that the merger will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and that each of First Community and Community Bancorp will be a party to that reorganization within the meaning of section 368(b) of the Internal Revenue Code;

receipt of consents from enumerated third parties under contracts entered into with Community Bancorp;

accuracy of the respective representations and warranties of Community Bancorp and First Community, subject to exceptions that would not have a material adverse effect on Community Bancorp or First Community, respectively;

there not having occurred events which have had or could reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on the other party;  
and

compliance in all material respects by Community Bancorp and First Community with their respective covenants in the merger agreement.

Where the law permits, a party to the merger agreement could elect to waive a condition to its obligation to complete the merger although that condition has not been satisfied. We cannot be certain when (or if) the conditions to the merger will be satisfied or waived or that the merger will be completed.

*We May Decide Not to Complete the Merger (Page 65)*

Community Bancorp and First Community can agree at any time not to complete the merger, even if approved at the meetings. Also, either of us can decide, without the consent of the other, not to complete the merger in a number of other situations, including:

the final denial of a required regulatory approval;

the merger not being completed on or before March 31, 2007, unless the failure is due to the party seeking to terminate the merger;

failure of the Community Bancorp stockholders to adopt the merger agreement;

failure of First Community shareholders to approve the proposal to amend the First Community bylaws;

breach by the other party of its representations, warranties, covenants or agreements contained in the merger agreement which is uncured and renders any condition incapable of being satisfied;

an affiliated holder of common stock of First Community or Community Bancorp

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materially breaching his or her respective shareholder agreement, resulting in failure of the applicable shareholder vote referred to above;

by First Community, if the board of directors of Community Bancorp has withdrawn or changed or failed to reaffirm its recommendation of the merger or recommended that its stockholders tender their shares in an offer by a third party or failed to recommend against such offer or otherwise breached its obligations relating to acquisition proposals;

by Community Bancorp, if Community Bancorp receives and its board of directors authorizes Community Bancorp to enter into a superior acquisition proposal, subject to the right of First Community to match such superior proposal; or

by First Community or Community Bancorp in the event of specified changes in the First Community common stock price that are significantly disproportionate to changes over the same measuring period in the KBW Bank Index, in each case as further described above under The Merger.

***We May Amend the Terms of the Merger and Waive Some Conditions (Page 67)***

First Community and Community Bancorp may jointly amend the terms of the merger agreement, and each of us may waive our right to require the other party to adhere to those terms, to the extent legally permissible. However, after adoption of the merger agreement by Community Bancorp stockholders, there may not be, without further approval of such stockholders, any amendment to the merger agreement which would reduce the aggregate value of the consideration to be received by the Community Bancorp stockholders, other than as contemplated by the merger agreement.

***In Order to Complete the Merger, We Must First Obtain Regulatory Approval (Page 47)***

On July 11, 2006, First Community and Community Bancorp obtained the approval of the OCC for the bank merger between First National Bank and Community National Bank. In addition, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco must confirm that prior approval of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System is not required under the Bank Holding Company Act. A request for such exemption and confirmation will be filed in due course.

***Termination Fee (Page 67)***

Under certain conditions, Community Bancorp may owe to First Community a termination fee of \$9.1 million if the merger agreement is terminated. The merger agreement requires Community Bancorp to pay the termination fee to First Community if:

First Community terminates the merger agreement because:

The Community Bancorp board of directors withdraws its recommendation in favor of the merger, approves or recommends to its stockholders an acquisition proposal other than that contemplated in the merger agreement, makes a recommendation in favor

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of an alternative transaction other than with First Community or breaches its obligation under the merger agreement relating to acquisition proposals; or

A Community Bancorp affiliated stockholder breaches his or her shareholder agreement resulting in the failure of the Community Bancorp stockholders to approve the merger proposal.

Community Bancorp terminates the merger agreement in conjunction with its board of directors authorizing entry into a superior proposal pursuant to the terms of the merger agreement.

Community Bancorp or First Community terminates the merger agreement for specified reasons described below after an alternative acquisition proposal for Community Bancorp has become publicly known and any acquisition proposal with respect to Community Bancorp is consummated within 12 months of the termination of the merger agreement. The

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termination fee is payable under these circumstances if the merger agreement is terminated due to:

failure of the parties to consummate the merger by March 31, 2007 as a result of Community Bancorp's knowing action or inaction; or

failure of Community Bancorp's stockholders to adopt the merger agreement.

***Comparison of Rights of Holders of First Community Common Stock and Community Bancorp Common Stock (Page 80)***

The conversion of the shares of Community Bancorp common stock into the right to receive shares of First Community common stock will result in differences between the rights of Community Bancorp stockholders, which are governed by the Delaware General Corporation Law and Community Bancorp's certificate of incorporation and bylaws, and their rights as First Community shareholders, which will be governed by the California General Corporation Law and First Community's articles of incorporation and bylaws. For a description of the material differences, see Comparison of Rights of Holders of First Community Common Stock and Community Bancorp Common Stock.



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**Selected Consolidated Historical Financial Data of First Community**

First Community is providing the following information to aid you in your analysis of the financial aspects of the merger. First Community derived the information as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 through December 31, 2005 from its historical audited consolidated financial statements for these fiscal years. First Community derived the financial information as of and for the quarters ended March 31, 2006 and March 31, 2005 from its unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for those periods. The audited and unaudited consolidated financial information contained herein is the same historical financial information that First Community has presented in its prior filings with the SEC.

The operating results for the quarter ended March 31, 2006 are not necessarily indicative of the operating results that may be expected for the year ended December 31, 2006. First Community expects that it will incur merger and restructuring expenses as a result of the acquisition of Community Bancorp, as well as for the recently completed acquisition of Foothill Independent Bancorp, or Foothill. This information is only a summary, and you should read it in conjunction with First Community's consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in First Community's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 and First Community's unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in First Community's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2006, which have been incorporated by reference into this document, as well as the pro forma financial statements included in this document under Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and the other information incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement-prospectus. See the section entitled Sources of Additional Information immediately preceding the table of contents.

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On May 9, 2006, First Community acquired all of the outstanding common stock and options of Foothill. Historical audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2005 for Foothill are included in Foothill's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, which financial statements are incorporated herein by reference. Historical unaudited consolidated financial statements for Foothill as of March 31, 2006 and for the quarters ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 are included with this joint proxy statement-prospectus in Appendix C and incorporated herein by reference. Because of this and other acquisitions, results from period to period are not comparable. See "Where You Can Find More Information" below.

	At or for the Quarters Ended March 31,		At or for the Year Ended December 31,				
	2006	2005	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)							
<b>Consolidated Statements of Earnings Data<sup>(1)</sup>:</b>							
Interest income	\$ 62,194	\$ 40,254	\$ 183,352	\$ 140,147	\$ 112,881	\$ 83,903	\$ 43,114
Interest expense	10,242	4,669	22,917	14,417	12,647	14,156	11,279
Net interest income	51,952	35,585	160,435	125,730	100,234	69,747	31,835
Provision for credit losses	100	800	1,420	465	300		639
Net interest income after provision for credit losses	51,852	34,785	159,015	125,265	99,934	69,747	31,196
Noninterest income	3,705	3,502	13,890	17,221	19,637	12,684	5,205
Noninterest expense	26,243	20,951	87,414	81,827	65,820	54,302	25,915
Earnings before income taxes and accounting change	29,314	17,336	85,491	60,659	53,751	28,129	10,486
Income taxes	12,053	7,074	35,125	24,296	21,696	11,217	4,376
Net earnings before accounting change	17,261	10,262	85,491	60,659	53,751	28,129	10,486
Accounting change <sup>(4)</sup>	142						
Net earnings	\$ 17,403	\$ 10,262	\$ 50,366	\$ 36,363	\$ 32,055	\$ 16,912	\$ 6,110
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.65	\$ 3.05	\$ 2.34	\$ 2.08	\$ 1.64	\$ 1.30
Diluted earnings per share	0.88	0.63	2.98	2.27	2.02	1.58	1.23
<b>Consolidated Balance Sheet Data<sup>(1)</sup>:</b>							
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ 117,659	\$ 88,752	\$ 105,262	\$ 319,281	\$ 104,568	\$ 124,366	\$ 104,703
Time deposits in financial institutions	1,740	185	90	702	311	1,041	190
Investments	233,203	255,202	239,354	269,507	432,318	325,858	128,593
Loans, net of unearned income	2,823,194	2,128,333	2,467,828	2,118,171	1,595,837	1,424,396	501,740
Total assets	3,670,270	2,810,835	3,226,411	3,049,453	2,429,981	2,120,004	770,506
Total deposits <sup>(2)</sup>	2,644,288	2,163,572	2,405,361	2,432,390	1,949,669	1,738,621	677,167
Total borrowings, including subordinated debentures	356,954	236,454	281,954	211,654	113,498	40,401	29,970
Total shareholders' equity	634,245	382,967	500,778	373,876	337,563	316,292	55,297
<b>Other Data<sup>(1)</sup>:</b>							
Dividends declared per share	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.97	\$ 0.85	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.36
Dividend payout ratio	28.40%	34.92%	32.55%	37.33%	33.42%	34.18%	29.27%
Book value per share <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 30.40	\$ 23.32	\$ 27.30	\$ 22.98	\$ 21.24	\$ 20.68	\$ 10.48
Shareholders' equity to assets at period end	17.28%	13.62%	15.52%	12.26%	13.89%	14.92%	7.18%
Return on average assets	1.91%	1.45%	1.68%	1.35%	1.41%	1.14%	0.92%
Return on average equity	12.15%	11.02%	12.10%	10.36%	9.84%	9.66%	16.33%
Net interest margin	6.82%	5.97%	6.37%	5.58%	5.24%	5.41%	5.32%
Non-performing assets to total assets	0.31%	0.77%	0.26%	0.29%	0.31%	0.63%	1.01%

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Allowance for credit losses to total loans, net of unearned income	1.34%	1.44%	1.34%	1.39%	1.61%	1.71%	2.23%
Net charge-offs to average loans	0.01%	0.05%	0.05%	0.08%	0.10%	0.16%	1.60%
Non-performing loans to total loans	0.41%	1.02%	0.34%	0.42%	0.46%	0.72%	0.93%
Allowance for credit losses to non-performing loans	328.8%	140.9%	391.5%	331.1%	347.5%	237.8%	239.9%

- (1) Balances and operating results of acquired entities are included from the respective acquisition dates. For further information, see First Community's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (2) 2004 includes a short term \$365 million interest-bearing deposit received on December 31, 2004.
- (3) The share counts used in this computation include 405,831 shares, 585,416 shares and 460,000 shares of unvested restricted and performance stock outstanding at December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, and 672,664 shares and 460,916 shares of unvested restricted and performance stock outstanding at March 31, 2006 and 2005.
- (4) Represents \$0.01 per basic share and less than \$0.01 per diluted share for the quarter ended March 31, 2006.

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**Selected Consolidated Historical Financial Data of Community Bancorp**

Community Bancorp is providing the following information to aid you in your analysis of the financial aspects of the merger. Community Bancorp derived the information as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 through December 31, 2005 from its historical audited financial statements for these fiscal years. The audited consolidated financial information contained herein is the same historical financial information that Community Bancorp has presented in its prior filings with the SEC. Community Bancorp derived the financial information as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and March 31, 2005 from its unaudited financial statements for those periods. The audited and unaudited financial information contained herein is the same historical financial information that Community Bancorp has presented in its prior filings with the SEC.

The operating results of the three months ended March 31, 2006 are not necessarily indicative of the operating results that may be expected for the year ended December 31, 2006. This information is only a summary and you should read it in conjunction with Community Bancorp's consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in Community Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 and Community Bancorp's unaudited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in Community Bancorp's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2006, which have been incorporated by reference into this document as well as the pro forma financial statements included in this document under Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. See the section entitled Sources of Additional Information immediately preceding the table of contents.

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On August 19, 2005, Community Bancorp acquired all of the outstanding common stock and options of Rancho Bernardo Community Bank. Because of this acquisition and the acquisition of Cuyamaca Bank, N.A. on October 1, 2004, results from period to period are not comparable. For additional information, see [Where You Can Find More Information](#) below.

	At or for the Three Months Ended, March 31,		At or for the Year Ended December 31,				
	2006	2005	2005 <sup>(1)</sup>	2004 <sup>(1)</sup>	2003	2002	2001
(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)							
<b>Consolidated Statements of Earnings Data:</b>							
Interest income	\$ 16,968	\$ 10,634	\$ 53,856	\$ 32,631	\$ 26,786	\$ 24,815	\$ 25,205
Interest expense	4,713	2,022	12,815	5,664	6,170	8,695	12,481
Net interest income	12,255	8,612	41,041	26,967	20,616	16,120	12,724
Provision for loan losses		318	1,231	1,176	1,639	1,561	1,470
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	12,255	8,294	39,810	25,791	18,977	14,559	11,254
Other operating income	2,464	2,583	10,023	9,660	7,691	6,501	2,946
Other operating expense	8,783	6,689	28,978	22,089	17,177	15,921	12,315
Income before income tax provision	5,936	4,188	20,855	13,362	9,491	5,139	1,885
Income tax provision	2,355	1,649	8,259	4,996	3,595	2,133	783
Net income	\$ 3,581	\$ 2,539	\$ 12,596	\$ 8,366	\$ 5,896	\$ 3,006	\$ 1,102
Net income per share-basic	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.49	\$ 2.29	\$ 1.83	\$ 1.51	\$ 0.86	\$ 0.36
Net income per share-diluted	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.46	\$ 2.17	\$ 1.71	\$ 1.42	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.35
<b>Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:</b>							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 17,881	\$ 19,370	\$ 17,107	\$ 14,842	\$ 17,940	\$ 11,814	\$ 10,856
Federal funds sold	6,435	17,270	20,645	9,565	17,925	9,690	28,090
Investments and other securities	59,873	31,913	61,279	34,148	25,607	38,930	11,691
Loans, net of fees, costs, discounts and reserves	722,807	584,947	727,299	532,012	394,211	339,471	305,686
Total assets	888,388	708,263	908,550	641,606	476,698	415,698	370,223
Total deposits	718,562	587,108	710,473	549,766	393,126	363,952	333,334
Long term debt	35,575	18,248	37,203	17,640	14,697	10,004	10,000
Total shareholders' equity	100,385	65,842	96,258	63,118	37,081	20,573	16,501
<b>Other Financial Data:</b>							
Dividends per common share	\$ 0.125	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.20	\$	\$	\$
Tangible book value per share (adjusted for stock dividends)	\$ 9.13	\$ 9.04	\$ 8.56	\$ 8.85	\$ 8.50	\$ 5.81	\$ 4.75
Stockholders' equity to assets	11.30%	9.30%	10.59%	9.84%	7.78%	4.95%	4.46%
Return on average assets	1.59%	1.49%	1.61%	1.55%	1.34%	0.77%	0.34%
Return on average equity	14.37%	15.59%	16.37%	18.84%	21.34%	16.00%	7.79%
Net interest margin	6.10%	5.66%	5.80%	5.40%	5.00%	4.40%	4.18%
Efficiency ratio	59.67%	59.75%	56.92%	60.08%	60.81%	70.25%	78.59%
<b>Credit Quality Data:</b>							
Non-accrual loans to total gross loans	0.61%	0.65%	0.49%	0.74%	0.24%	0.65%	1.03%
Non-performing assets to total assets	0.54%	0.78%	0.41%	0.63%	0.30%	0.54%	1.38%
Loan loss allowances to total gross loans	1.34%	1.33%	1.32%	1.38%	1.30%	1.14%	0.90%
Loan loss allowances to loans held for investment	1.75%	1.69%	1.68%	1.71%	1.58%	1.36%	1.03%
Loan loss allowances to non-accrual loans	218.20%	203.68%	267.97%	186.44%	542.14%	175.02%	88.00%
Net loan (recoveries) losses to average loans	(0.04)%	(0.06)%	0.04%	0.01%	0.09%	0.16%	0.23%
<b>Credit Quality Data (net of government guarantees):</b>							
Non-accrual loans to total gross loans	0.33%	0.17%	0.28%	0.39%	0.07%	0.19%	0.37%

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Non-performing assets to total assets	0.30%	0.37%	0.24%	0.33%	0.15%	0.16%	0.82%
Loan loss allowance to total gross loans	1.39%	1.39%	1.32%	1.38%	1.30%	1.26%	1.07%
Loan loss allowance to non-accrual loans	410.50%	788.55%	467.16%	351.99%	1922.51%	606.00%	245.00%

- (1) Due to the acquisition of Cuyamaca Bank, N.A. on October 1, 2004 and Rancho Bernardo Community Bank on August 19, 2005, figures are not comparable.

**Table of Contents****Comparative Per Share Data**

The following table presents certain historical per share data of First Community and Community Bancorp as of and for the year ended December 31, 2005 and the quarter ended March 31, 2006 and certain unaudited pro forma per share data that reflect the combination of First Community and Community Bancorp as if it occurred on January 1, 2005 for statement of earnings purposes, and as of the respective balance sheet dates for balance sheet purposes, in each case using the purchase method of accounting. This data should be read in conjunction with First Community's and Community Bancorp's respective audited and unaudited consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement-prospectus. The unaudited data for both First Community and Community Bancorp as of and for the quarter ended March 31, 2006 are not indicative of future results of operations or financial condition. The unaudited pro forma data for First Community and Community Bancorp combined and Community Bancorp equivalent neither necessarily indicate the operating results that would have occurred had the combination of First Community and Community Bancorp actually occurred on January 1, 2005, nor do they indicate future results of operations or financial condition.

The pro forma First Community and Community Bancorp combined net earnings per common share has been computed based on the historical number of average outstanding common shares of First Community plus the number of outstanding common shares of Community Bancorp adjusted by the exchange ratio of 0.735. The pro forma Community Bancorp equivalent net earnings per share represents the pro forma First Community and Community Bancorp combined net earnings per share multiplied by the exchange ratio of 0.735. The pro forma Community Bancorp equivalent dividends declared per share represent the pro forma First Community and Community Bancorp combined dividends declared per share multiplied by the exchange ratio of 0.735. The pro forma First Community and Community Bancorp combined book value per common share amounts are based upon the pro forma total shareholders' equity of First Community and Community Bancorp at December 31, 2005 and at March 31, 2006, divided by the total pro forma number of First Community common shares outstanding assuming the conversion of Community Bancorp common stock into First Community common stock at the exchange ratio of 0.735. The pro forma Community Bancorp equivalent book value per common share represents the pro forma First Community and Community Bancorp combined book value per common share multiplied by the exchange ratio of 0.735.

	As of or for the quarter ended March 31, 2006			
	First Community	Community Bancorp	Pro Forma	
			First Community and Community Bancorp Pro Forma Combined	Community Bancorp Equivalent
			First Community	Community Bancorp
Net earnings per share before accounting change:				
Basic	\$ 0.89	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.59
Diluted	0.88	0.57	0.78	0.57
Dividends declared per share	0.25	0.125	0.25	0.18
Book value per common share	30.40	16.64	34.41	25.29

	As of or for the year ended December 31, 2005			
	First Community	Community Bancorp	Pro Forma	
			First Community and Community Bancorp Pro Forma Combined	Community Bancorp Equivalent
			First Community	Community Bancorp

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			<b>Bancorp Pro Forma Combined</b>	
Net earnings per share:				
Basic	\$ 3.05	\$ 2.29	\$ 2.87	\$ 2.11
Diluted	2.98	2.17	2.79	2.05
Dividends declared per share	0.97	0.40	0.97	0.71
Book value per common share	27.30	16.21	34.51	25.36



**Table of Contents****Market Price Data and Dividend Information****Comparative Market Price Information**

The following table presents trading information for First Community common stock and Community Bancorp common stock on the Nasdaq National Market System on May 15, 2006 and \_\_\_\_\_, 2006. May 15, 2006 was the last trading day prior to the announcement of the signing of the merger agreement. \_\_\_\_\_, 2006 was the last practical trading day for which information was available prior to the date of the printing of this joint proxy statement-prospectus.

	Closing Sales Price		
	First Community	Community Bancorp	Community Bancorp Equivalent <sup>(1)</sup>
Price per share:			
May 15, 2006	\$ 56.56	\$ 39.05	\$ 41.57
_____, 2006	\$	\$	\$

- (1) The equivalent price per share data for Community Bancorp common stock has been determined by multiplying the last reported sale price of a share of First Community common stock on May 15, 2006 and \_\_\_\_\_, 2006 by the exchange ratio of 0.735.

You should obtain current market quotations for First Community common stock. The market price of First Community common stock will fluctuate between the date of this document and the date on which the merger is completed and after the merger. Because the market price of First Community common stock is subject to fluctuation and because the exchange ratio is fixed, the value of the merger consideration may increase or decrease prior to and after the merger.

**Historical Market Prices and Dividend Information****First Community**

First Community common stock is listed on the Nasdaq National Market System under the symbol FCBP. The following table sets forth, for the calendar quarters indicated, the high and low sales prices per share of First Community common stock as reported on the Nasdaq National Market System, and the dividends per share of First Community common stock.

Quarter	High	Low	Dividends Declared
2004:			

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First quarter	\$ 40.68	\$ 36.00	\$ 0.188
Second quarter	39.97	32.02	0.22
Third quarter	43.65	37.38	0.22
Fourth quarter	43.99	39.56	0.22
2005:			
First quarter	\$ 46.20	\$ 39.00	\$ 0.22
Second quarter	48.95	41.18	0.25
Third quarter	51.62	45.50	0.25
Fourth quarter	57.30	45.07	0.25
2006:			
First quarter	\$ 61.65	\$ 53.95	\$ 0.25
Second quarter	61.35	55.02	0.32
Third quarter (through )			

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The timing and amount of future dividends will depend upon earnings, cash requirements, the financial condition of First Community and its subsidiaries, applicable government regulations and other factors deemed relevant by the First Community board of directors.

**Community Bancorp**

Community Bancorp common stock is listed on the Nasdaq National Market System under the symbol CMBC. The following table sets forth, for the calendar quarters indicated, the high and low sales prices per share of Community Bancorp common stock as reported on the Nasdaq National Market System, and the dividends per share of Community Bancorp common stock.

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Cash Dividends</u>
<b>2004:</b>			
First quarter	\$ 24.00	\$ 18.07	\$ 0.05
Second quarter	25.00	21.18	0.05
Third quarter	27.00	23.06	0.05
Fourth quarter	30.00	24.86	0.05
<b>2005:</b>			
First quarter	\$ 33.80	\$ 28.77	\$ 0.10
Second quarter	32.03	28.92	0.10
Third quarter	35.10	29.83	0.10
Fourth quarter	35.50	31.50	0.10
<b>2006:</b>			
First quarter	\$ 37.42	\$ 34.60	\$ 0.125
Second quarter	44.50	33.05	\$ 0.125
Third quarter (through )			

**Table of Contents****Summary Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Condensed Financial Data**

The following summary unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial data has been derived from the unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial statements and notes appearing in this document under the heading Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Condensed Financial Statements. First Community completed the acquisitions of First American Bank, or First American, and Pacific Liberty Bank, or Pacific Liberty, during 2005 and completed the acquisition of Cedars Bank, or Cedars, in January 2006 and Foothill Independent Bancorp, or Foothill, in May 2006. The following data has been prepared and is presented as if the acquisitions of First American, Pacific Liberty, Cedars, Foothill and Community Bancorp all had been consummated on January 1, 2005, for purposes of the statement of earnings data, and, for purposes of the balance sheet data, as if the Foothill and Community Bancorp acquisitions were consummated on March 31, 2006. The First American, Pacific Liberty and Cedars acquisitions are reflected in First Community's historical balance sheet as of March 31, 2006. The purchase method of accounting is used to record the acquisitions.

The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial data includes adjustments to record the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at their fair values. Such adjustments are subject to change as additional information becomes available and as the acquisitions are consummated. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial data is presented for illustrative purposes only, and does not indicate either the operating results that would have occurred had all the acquisitions been consummated on January 1, 2005, or on March 31, 2006, as the case may be, or future results of operations or financial condition. No assumptions have been applied to the pro forma combined financial data regarding possible revenue enhancements, expense efficiencies, or asset dispositions other than sales of investment securities. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial statements are based upon assumptions and adjustments that First Community believes are reasonable. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial data should be read in conjunction with the unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial statements and notes appearing in this document under the heading Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Condensed Financial Statements as well as First Community's, Community Bancorp's and Foothill's historical financial statements contained in their respective Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 and their respective Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2006, which have been incorporated by reference into this document, or as otherwise contained herein. See the section Sources of Additional Information immediately preceding the table of contents.

	Quarter Ended	Year Ended
	March 31, 2006	December 31, 2005
	(In thousands, except per share data)	(In thousands, except per share data)
<b>Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Condensed Statement of Earnings Data:</b>		
Interest income	\$ 89,246	\$ 320,833
Interest expense	15,728	51,782
Net interest income before provision for credit losses	73,518	269,051
Provision for credit losses	100	4,864
Net interest income after provision for credit losses	73,418	264,187
Noninterest income	7,490	34,272
Noninterest expense	42,778	166,749
Earnings before income taxes and accounting change	38,130	131,710
Income taxes	15,421	52,385
Net earnings before accounting change	\$ 22,709	\$ 79,325
Net earnings per share before accounting change:		

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Basic	\$	0.80	\$	2.87
Diluted	\$	0.78	\$	2.79
Weighted average shares:				
Basic		28,306.0		27,593.0
Diluted		29,083.0		28,430.0

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	At
	March 31,
	2006
	<u>(In thousands)</u>
<b>Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Condensed Balance Sheet Data:</b>	
Investments and interest bearing deposits	\$ 346,141
Loans, net	4,053,290
Goodwill	752,098
Core deposit intangible	60,399
Deposits	4,014,392
Borrowings	170,857
Subordinated debentures	165,162
Shareholders' equity	1,119,075

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**RISK FACTORS**

*First Community shareholders and Community Bancorp stockholders should carefully consider the following factors, in addition to those factors discussed in the documents that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, which are incorporated by reference into this document and the other information in this joint proxy statement-prospectus, including the matters addressed in Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements, before voting on the merger proposal or the proposal to amend First Community's bylaws, as applicable.*

**Risks Related to the Merger**

*The value of the merger consideration to be paid in First Community common stock may fluctuate based on the price of First Community stock.*

Upon completion of the merger, each share of Community Bancorp common stock will be converted into merger consideration consisting of 0.735 of a share of First Community common stock pursuant to the terms of the merger agreement. As a result of the fixed exchange ratio, any change in the price of First Community common stock prior to the closing date may affect the value of the merger consideration that Community Bancorp stockholders will receive upon completion of the merger. Stock price changes may result from a variety of factors, including general market and economic conditions, changes in First Community's businesses, operations and prospects, regulatory considerations and completion of the merger. Many of these factors are beyond First Community's control. You should obtain current market quotations for First Community common stock.

*If First Community is unable to integrate the operations of Community Bancorp and the operations of other banks it has acquired successfully, its business and earnings may be negatively affected.*

First Community has recently completed the acquisitions of First American Bank, Pacific Liberty Bank, Cedars Bank and Foothill Independent Bancorp in 2005 and 2006. These acquisitions and the merger with Community Bancorp involve the integration of companies that have previously operated independently. Successful integration of operations of Community Bancorp and these recently acquired banks will depend primarily on First Community's ability to consolidate operations, systems and procedures and to eliminate redundancies and costs. No assurance can be given that First Community will be able to integrate their operations without encountering difficulties including, without limitation, the loss of key employees and customers, the disruption of its respective ongoing businesses or possible inconsistencies in standards, controls, procedures and policies. Estimated cost savings and revenue enhancements are projected to come from various areas that First Community's management has identified through the due diligence and integration planning process. The elimination and consolidation of duplicate tasks at these banks are projected to result in annual cost savings. If First Community has difficulties with any of these integrations, it might not achieve the economic benefits it expects to result from the merger, and this may hurt its business and earnings. In addition, First Community may experience greater than expected costs or difficulties relating to the integration of the business of Community Bancorp and the other banks, and/or may not realize expected cost savings from the merger and the other acquisitions within the expected time frame.

*Shares eligible for future sale could have a dilutive effect.*

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Shares of First Community common stock eligible for future sale, including those that may be issued in the acquisition of Community Bancorp and any other offering of First Community common stock for cash, could have a dilutive effect on the market for First Community common stock and could adversely affect market prices.

As of the record date, there were 50,000,000 shares of First Community common stock authorized, of which approximately                      shares were outstanding, excluding                      shares of unvested restricted stock and 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, of which none were outstanding. An estimated                      additional shares will



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be issued to Community Bancorp stockholders in the merger, based on the exchange ratio of 0.735 and the number of shares of Community Bancorp common stock outstanding on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006. In addition, Community Bancorp option holders currently hold outstanding options to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ shares of Community Bancorp common stock which, if exercised prior to the closing of the merger, would result in the issuance of additional shares of First Community common stock. Furthermore, currently up to \_\_\_\_\_ shares remain and may be issued pursuant to a registration statement filed with the SEC on Form S-3 for the purpose of raising cash to fund acquisitions of banks and other financial institutions, as well as for general corporate purposes.

*Community Bancorp's directors and executive officers have additional interests in the merger.*

In deciding how to vote on the proposal to adopt the merger agreement, Community Bancorp stockholders should be aware that Community Bancorp's directors and executive officers have interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, the interests of Community Bancorp stockholders generally. See *The Merger Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger*. Community Bancorp's board of directors was aware of these interests and considered them when it approved the merger agreement.

## **Risks Related to First Community Following Completion of the Merger**

*Unless otherwise specified, references to we, our and us in this subsection mean First Community and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis.*

*Our business is subject to interest rate risk and variations in interest rates may negatively affect our financial performance.*

Changes in the interest rate environment may reduce our profits. It is expected that we will continue to realize income from the differential or spread between the interest earned on loans, securities and other interest-earning assets, and interest paid on deposits, borrowings and other interest-bearing liabilities. Net interest spreads are affected by the difference between the maturities and repricing characteristics of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities. In addition, loan volume and yields are affected by market interest rates on loans, and rising interest rates generally are associated with a lower volume of loan originations. We cannot assure you that we can minimize our interest rate risk. In addition, while an increase in the general level of interest rates may increase our net interest margin and loan yield, it may adversely affect the ability of certain borrowers with variable rate loans to pay the interest on and principal of their obligations. Accordingly, changes in levels of market interest rates could materially and adversely affect our net interest spread, asset quality, loan origination volume and overall profitability.

*We face strong competition from financial services companies and other companies that offer banking services which could negatively affect our business.*

We conduct our banking operations primarily in Southern California. Increased competition in our market may result in reduced loans and deposits. Ultimately, we may not be able to compete successfully against current and future competitors. Many competitors offer the same banking services that we offer in our service area. These competitors include national banks, regional banks and other community banks. We also face competition from many other types of financial institutions, including without limitation, savings and loan institutions, finance companies, brokerage firms, insurance companies, credit unions, mortgage banks and other financial intermediaries. In particular, our competitors include several major financial companies whose greater resources may afford them a marketplace advantage by enabling them to

maintain numerous banking locations and ATMs and conduct extensive promotional and advertising campaigns.

Additionally, banks and other financial institutions with larger capitalization and financial intermediaries not subject to bank regulatory restrictions have larger lending limits and are thereby able to serve the credit needs of larger customers. Areas of competition include interest rates for loans and deposits, efforts to obtain deposits,

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and range and quality of products and services provided, including new technology-driven products and services. Technological innovation continues to contribute to greater competition in domestic and international financial services markets as technological advances enable more companies to provide financial services. We also face competition from out-of-state financial intermediaries that have opened low-end production offices or that solicit deposits in our market areas. If we are unable to attract and retain banking customers, we may be unable to continue to grow our loan and deposit portfolios and our results of operations and financial condition may otherwise be adversely affected.

***Changes in economic conditions, in particular an economic slowdown in Southern California, could materially and negatively affect our business.***

Our business is directly impacted by factors such as economic, political and market conditions, broad trends in industry and finance, legislative and regulatory changes, changes in government monetary and fiscal policies and inflation, all of which are beyond our control. A deterioration in economic conditions, whether caused by national or local concerns, in particular an economic slowdown in Southern California, could result in the following consequences, any of which could hurt our business materially: loan delinquencies may increase; problem assets and foreclosures may increase; demand for our products and services may decrease; low cost or noninterest bearing deposits may decrease; and collateral for loans made by us, especially real estate, may decline in value, in turn reducing customers' borrowing power, and reducing the value of assets and collateral associated with our existing loans. The State of California and certain local governments in our market area continue to face fiscal challenges upon which the long-term impact on the State's or the local economy cannot be predicted.

***A downturn in the real estate market could negatively affect our business.***

A downturn in the real estate market could negatively affect our business because a significant portion of First Community's loans (approximately 75% as of June 30, 2006) are secured by real estate. A significant portion of Community Bancorp's loans (approximately 86.3% as of June 30, 2006) are secured by real estate as well. Our ability to recover on defaulted loans by selling the real estate collateral would then be diminished and we would be more likely to suffer losses on defaulted loans.

Substantially all of our real property collateral is located in Southern California. If there is a significant decline in real estate values, especially in Southern California, the collateral for our loans would provide less security. Real estate values could be affected by, among other things, an economic slowdown, an increase in interest rates, earthquakes and other natural disasters particular to California.

***We are dependent on key personnel and the loss of one or more of those key personnel may materially and adversely affect our prospects.***

We currently depend heavily on the services of our chairman, John Eggemeyer, our chief executive officer, Matthew Wagner, and a number of other key management personnel. The loss of Mr. Eggemeyer's or Mr. Wagner's services or that of other key personnel could materially and adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition. Our success also depends in part on our ability to attract and retain additional qualified management personnel. Competition for such personnel is strong in the banking industry and we may not be successful in attracting or retaining the personnel we require.

***We are subject to extensive regulation which could adversely affect our business.***

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Our operations are subject to extensive regulation by federal, state and local governmental authorities and are subject to various laws and judicial and administrative decisions imposing requirements and restrictions on part or all of our operations. Because our business is highly regulated, the laws, rules and regulations applicable to us are subject to regular modification and change. There are currently proposed laws, rules and regulations

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that, if adopted, would impact our operations. There can be no assurance that these proposed laws, rules and regulations, or any other laws, rules or regulations, will not be adopted in the future, which could (1) make compliance much more difficult or expensive, (2) restrict our ability to originate, broker or sell loans or accept certain deposits, (3) further limit or restrict the amount of commissions, interest or other charges earned on loans originated or sold by us, or (4) otherwise adversely affect our business or prospects for business.

*We are exposed to transactional, currency and legal risk related to our foreign loans that is in addition to risks we face on loans to U.S.-based borrowers.*

A portion of our loan portfolio is represented by credit we extend and loans we make to businesses located outside the United States, predominantly in Mexico (approximately 3% as of June 30, 2006). These loans, which include commercial loans, real estate loans and credit extensions for the financing of international trade, are subject to risks in addition to risks we face with our loans to businesses located in the United States including, but not limited to, currency risk, transaction risk, country risk and legal risk. While these loans are denominated in U.S. dollars, the ability of the borrower to repay may be affected by fluctuations in the borrower's home country currency relative to the U.S. dollar. Additionally, while most of our foreign loans are insured by U.S.-based institutions, guaranteed by a U.S.-based entity or collateralized with U.S.-based assets or real property, our ability to collect in the event of default is subject to a number of conditions and we may not be successful in obtaining partial or full repayment. Furthermore, foreign laws may restrict our ability to foreclose on, take a security interest in or seize collateral located in the foreign country.

*We are exposed to risk of environmental liabilities with respect to properties to which we take title.*

In the course of our business, we may own or foreclose and take title to real estate, and could be subject to environmental liabilities with respect to these properties. We may be held liable to a governmental entity or to third parties for property damage, personal injury, investigation and clean-up costs incurred by these parties in connection with environmental contamination, or may be required to investigate or clean up hazardous or toxic substances, or chemical releases at a property. The costs associated with investigation or remediation activities could be substantial. In addition, as the owner or former owner of a contaminated site, we may be subject to common law claims by third parties based on damages and costs resulting from environmental contamination emanating from the property. If we ever become subject to significant environmental liabilities, our business, financial condition, liquidity and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

*Our ability to pay dividends is restricted by law and contractual arrangements and depends on capital distributions from our subsidiary banks which are subject to regulatory limits.*

Our ability to pay dividends to our shareholders is subject to the restrictions set forth in California law. In addition, our ability to pay dividends to our shareholders is restricted in specified circumstances under indentures governing the trust preferred securities we have issued and under the revolving credit agreements to which we are a party. We cannot assure you that we will meet the criteria specified under California law or under these agreements in the future, in which case we may reduce or stop paying dividends on our common stock.

*The primary source of our income from which we pay dividends is the receipt of dividends from our subsidiary banks.*

The availability of dividends from our subsidiary banks is limited by various statutes and regulations. It is possible, depending upon the financial condition of the bank in question, and other factors, that the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and/or the Office of the

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Comptroller of the Currency, could assert that payment of dividends or other payments is an unsafe or unsound practice. In the event our subsidiaries were unable to pay dividends to us, we in turn would likely have to reduce or stop paying dividends on our common stock. Our failure to pay dividends on our common stock could have a material adverse effect on the market price of our common stock.

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*Only a limited trading market exists for our common stock which could lead to price volatility.*

Our common stock was designated for quotation on the Nasdaq National Market in June 2000 and trading volumes since that time have been modest. The limited trading market for our common stock may cause fluctuations in the market value of our common stock to be exaggerated, leading to price volatility in excess of that which would occur in a more active trading market of our common stock. In addition, even if a more active market in our common stock develops, we cannot assure you that such a market will continue or that stockholders will be able to sell their shares.

*Our allowance for credit losses may not be adequate to cover actual losses.*

In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, we maintain an allowance for loan losses to provide for loan defaults and non-performance and a reserve for unfunded loan commitments, which when combined, we refer to as the allowance for credit losses. Our allowance for credit losses may not be adequate to cover actual credit losses, and future provisions for credit losses could materially and adversely affect our operating results. Our allowance for credit losses is based on prior experience, as well as an evaluation of the risks in the current portfolio. The amount of future losses is susceptible to changes in economic, operating and other conditions, including changes in interest rates that may be beyond our control, and these losses may exceed current estimates. Federal regulatory agencies, as an integral part of their examination process, review our loans and allowance for credit losses. While we believe that our allowance for credit losses is adequate to cover current losses, we cannot assure you that we will not further increase the allowance for credit losses or that regulators will not require us to increase this allowance. Either of these occurrences could materially adversely affect our earnings.

*Concentrated ownership of our common stock creates a risk of sudden changes in our share price.*

As of the record date, directors and members of our executive management team owned or controlled approximately \_\_\_\_\_ of our common stock, excluding shares that may be issued to executive officers upon vesting of restricted and performance stock awards and including vested stock options. Investors who purchase our common stock may be subject to certain risks due to the concentrated ownership of our common stock. The sale by any of our large shareholders of a significant portion of that shareholder's holdings could have a material adverse effect on the market price of our common stock. In addition, the registration of any significant amount of additional shares of our common stock will have the immediate effect of increasing the public float of our common stock and any such increase may cause the market price of our common stock to decline or fluctuate significantly.

*Our largest shareholder is a registered bank holding company and the activities and regulation of such shareholder may affect the permissible activities of First Community.*

Castle Creek Capital, LLC, which we refer to as Castle Creek, is controlled by our chairman, John M. Eggemeyer, and such persons beneficially owned approximately \_\_\_\_\_ % of First Community's common stock as of the record date. Castle Creek is a registered bank holding company under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended, and is regulated by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, or FRB. Under FRB guidelines, holding companies must be a source of strength for their subsidiaries. Regulation of Castle Creek by the FRB may adversely affect the activities and strategic plans of First Community should the FRB determine that Castle Creek or any other company in which Castle Creek has invested has engaged in any unsafe or unsound banking practices or activities. While we have no reason to believe that the FRB is proposing to take any action with respect to Castle Creek that would adversely affect First Community, we remain subject to such risk.





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**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This joint proxy statement-prospectus, any supplement and any documents incorporated by reference may contain certain forward-looking statements about Community Bancorp, First Community and the combined company, which statements are intended to be covered by the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements other than statements of historical fact are forward-looking statements. Such statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict and are generally beyond the control of First Community and Community Bancorp. Readers are cautioned that a number of important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in, implied or projected by, such forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to:

planned acquisitions and relative cost savings cannot be realized or realized within the expected time frame;

revenues are lower than expected;

an increase in the provision for loan losses resulting from credit quality deterioration;

competitive pressure among depository institutions increases significantly;

First Community's ability to successfully execute announced or future acquisitions or to receive regulatory approvals on the terms expected or on the anticipated schedule or at all;

First Community's ability to integrate acquired entities and businesses and to achieve expected synergies, operating efficiencies or other benefits within expected time-frames or at all, or within expected cost projections;

the possibility that personnel changes will not proceed as planned;

the cost of additional capital is more than expected;

a change in the interest rate environment reduces interest margins;

asset/liability repricing risks and liquidity risks;

pending legal matters may take longer or cost more to resolve or may be resolved adversely to First Community;

general economic conditions, either nationally or in the market areas in which First Community and Community Bancorp do or anticipate doing business, are less favorable than expected;

the economic and regulatory effects of the continuing war on terrorism and other events of war, including the war in Iraq;

legislative or regulatory requirements or changes that may adversely affect First Community's or Community Bancorp's business; and

changes in the securities markets.

If any of these risks or uncertainties materializes or if any of the assumptions underlying such forward-looking statements proves to be incorrect, First Community's or Community Bancorp's results could differ materially from those expressed in, implied or projected by, such forward-looking statements. Neither First Community nor Community Bancorp assume any obligation to update such forward-looking statements. For a more detailed discussion of certain of these factors, see the section entitled "Risk Factors" in this joint proxy statement-prospectus and "Certain Business Risks" in First Community's most recent Form 10-K (incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement-prospectus) and "Risks Associated with our Business" in Community Bancorp's most recent Form 10-K (incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement-prospectus) and similar sections in First Community's and Community Bancorp's future filings which are incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement-prospectus, which describe risks and factors that could cause results to differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements. First Community and Community Bancorp caution the reader that these risk factors may not be exhaustive. First Community and Community Bancorp operate in a continually changing business environment, and new risk factors emerge from time to time. Neither management of First Community nor Community Bancorp can predict such new risk factors, nor can they assess the impact, if any, of such new risk factors on First Community's or Community Bancorp's business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in any forward-looking statements.

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**THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COMMUNITY BANCORP INC. STOCKHOLDERS**

This joint proxy statement-prospectus is being furnished to Community Bancorp stockholders in connection with the solicitation of proxies by Community Bancorp's board of directors for approval of the following two proposals:

1. **Approval of Merger.** To consider and vote on a proposal to adopt the merger agreement by and between First Community Bancorp and Community Bancorp Inc.

2. **Adjournment.** To consider and vote on a proposal to approve adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies for approval of the merger from stockholders, if that becomes necessary.

The Community Bancorp board of directors does not expect any other business to be transacted at the special meeting.

**YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. PLEASE VOTE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY COMPLETING, SIGNING AND DATING THE PROXY CARD ENCLOSED WITH THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT-PROSPECTUS AND RETURNING IT IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE. ALTERNATIVELY, YOU MAY VOTE BY TELEPHONE OR VIA THE INTERNET. JUST FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE PROXY OR VOTING INSTRUCTION CARD THAT ACCOMPANIES THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT-PROSPECTUS.**

**Date, Time and Place of Community Bancorp's Special Meeting**

The special meeting of stockholders of Community Bancorp will be held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, at \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ local time and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

**Who May Vote?**

If you were a stockholder on the records of Community Bancorp at the close of business on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, which is the record date established for the special meeting, you may vote at the special meeting either in person or by proxy. On that date, there were \_\_\_\_\_ shares of Community Bancorp common stock outstanding and entitled to vote.

**How Many Votes Do I Have?**

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You will be entitled to cast one vote for each share of Community Bancorp common stock that you owned on the record date on each proposal presented for a vote of stockholders at the special meeting. In order to vote, you must either designate a proxy to vote on your behalf or attend the special meeting and vote your shares in person. The Board of Directors requests your proxy so that your shares will count toward a quorum and will be voted at the special meeting.

### **How Will The Board Vote My Proxy?**

A properly executed proxy received by us prior to the commencement of the meeting, and not revoked, will be voted as directed by the stockholder on that proxy. If a stockholder provides no specific direction, the shares will be voted **FOR** adoption of the merger agreement and, if necessary, **FOR** adjournment of the meeting to enable additional proxies for approval of the merger to be obtained.

However, if your Community Bancorp shares are held in a brokerage or nominee account, please read the information below under captions Voting Shares Held by Brokers, Banks and Other Nominees and Required Vote to find out how your shares may be voted.

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### **How May I Vote?**

*By Mail.* Stockholders may mark, sign, date and return their proxies in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you sign and return your proxy without indicating how you want to vote, your proxy will be voted for adoption of the merger agreement (except for shares held in employee benefit plans and by brokers, banks and other nominees described below) and, if necessary, for adjournment or postponement of the special meeting. If you forget to sign your proxy, your shares cannot be voted. However, if you sign your proxy but forget to date it, your shares will still be voted as you have directed. You should, however, date your proxy, as well as sign it.

*By Telephone or Via the Internet.* If you are a registered stockholder (you do not hold your shares through a broker or nominee holder), you may vote by telephone, or electronically over the Internet, by following the instructions included with your proxy. If your shares are held in street name (i.e., through a broker or nominee holder), please contact your broker or nominee to determine whether you will be able to vote by telephone or electronically. The deadline for voting telephonically or electronically over the internet is 12:00 A.M. (Midnight) Pacific Time on , 2006.

### **Voting Shares Held by Brokers, Banks and Other Nominees**

If you hold your shares of Community Bancorp common stock in a brokerage, bank or other nominee account, you are a beneficial owner of those shares, holding them in street name. In order to vote those shares, you must give voting instructions to your broker, bank or other intermediary who is the nominee holder of your shares. We ask brokers, banks and other nominee holders to obtain voting instructions from the beneficial owners of our common stock. Proxies that are transmitted by nominee holders on your behalf will count toward a quorum and will be voted as instructed by you, as beneficial holder of the shares. However, if no instructions are specified by you to your broker or other nominee, your broker or nominee holder will *not* have discretion to vote your shares at the special meeting, and your shares will not be voted, on the merger proposal, but will constitute broker non-votes. As a result, if you want your shares to be voted at the special meeting, you must send your voting instructions to your broker or nominee holder in sufficient time to enable that broker or nominee holder to vote your shares in accordance with your instructions.

### **Required Vote**

*Quorum Requirement.* The presence in person or by proxy of the holders of a majority of all of the shares of Community Bancorp common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting constitutes a quorum. Without a quorum, no actions can be taken at the special meeting, except to adjourn the meeting to a later date to allow time to obtain additional proxies to satisfy this quorum requirement. Proxies submitted by brokers or other nominee holders with respect to shares for which no voting instructions have been given by their beneficial owners, which constitute broker non-votes, will be counted for purposes of determining whether the quorum requirement has been satisfied.

*Voting on the Proposal to Adopt the Merger Agreement.* The adoption of the merger agreement will require the affirmative vote, in person or by proxy, of a majority of the outstanding shares of Community Bancorp common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting.

*Voting on the Proposal to Adjourn the Meeting.* If it becomes necessary to adjourn or postpone the special meeting to a later date to allow time to obtain additional proxies, stockholders may be asked to vote on a proposal to adjourn the meeting for that purpose. If stockholders are asked to vote on an adjournment or postponement, the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares that (1) are present, in person or by

proxy and (2) are voted on that proposal at the special meeting is required to approve such an adjournment.

**Effect of Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes**

Both abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum at the special meeting. Because adoption of the merger agreement requires the affirmative vote of a

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majority of Community Bancorp's outstanding shares, abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as votes cast against the proposal to adopt the merger agreement.

### **How Can I Revoke My Proxy?**

If you are a registered owner, you may change your mind and revoke your proxy at any time before your proxy is voted at the special meeting by taking any one of the following actions:

Sending a written notice to revoke your proxy to the Corporate Secretary of Community Bancorp, at 900 Canterbury Place, Suite 300, Escondido, California 92025. To be effective, the notice must be received by Community Bancorp before the special meeting commences.

Transmitting a proxy by mail at a later date than your prior proxy. To be effective, that later dated proxy must be received by Community Bancorp before the special meeting commences. In addition, you may revoke your proxy by voting via telephone or via the Internet on a date subsequent to your proxy vote. In the event you choose to revoke or amend prior instructions, we recommend that you revoke or amend them in the same way you initially gave them—that is, by telephone, internet or in writing. This will help to ensure that your shares are voted the way you have finally determined you wish them to be voted.

Attending the special meeting and voting in person or by proxy.

However, if your shares are held by a broker or other nominee holder you will need to contact your broker or nominee holder if you wish to revoke your proxy.

### **Proxy Solicitation and Expenses**

The accompanying proxy is being solicited by the board of directors of Community Bancorp. Community Bancorp will bear the entire cost of solicitation of proxies from holders of its shares. In addition to the solicitation of proxies by mail, certain officers, directors and employees of Community Bancorp, without extra remuneration, may also solicit proxies in person, by telephone, facsimile or otherwise. Community Bancorp will pay postage and mailing costs for mailing of the joint proxy statement-prospectus to its stockholders. All other costs, including printing, legal and accounting fees, shall be borne by whichever of First Community or Community Bancorp has incurred such costs.

### **No Dissenters' Rights of Appraisal**

Under Delaware law, Community Bancorp stockholders are not entitled to appraisal rights in connection with the merger.

### **Adjournment of the Special Meeting**

Although it is not anticipated, the special meeting may be adjourned for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies in favor of the merger. Any adjournment of the special meeting may be made without notice, other than by an announcement made at the special meeting. If the adjournment of the special meeting is for more than 30 days or if, after the adjournment, a new record date is fixed for an adjourned meeting, then notice of the adjourned meeting must be given to each stockholder of record entitled to vote at the special meeting. Any adjournments of the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies will allow Community Bancorp's stockholders who have already sent in their proxies to revoke them at any time prior to their use.

**Recommendation of the Board of Directors**

**YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS DETERMINED THAT THE MERGER IS FAIR TO AND IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF COMMUNITY BANCORP AND ITS STOCKHOLDERS AND UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED MERGER AGREEMENT AND, IF NECESSARY, FOR ADJOURNMENT OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE MEETING.**



**Table of Contents****Principal Stockholders of Community Bancorp**

Set forth below is certain information as of July 21, 2006 regarding the number of shares of Community Bancorp's common stock owned by (1) each person known to Community Bancorp to own 5% or more of Community Bancorp's outstanding shares of common stock, (2) each director and executive officers of the Community Bancorp and (3) all of Community Bancorp's current directors and executive officers as a group.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner <sup>(1)</sup>	Relationship with Community Bancorp/Community National Bank	Amount and	
		Nature of Beneficial Ownership <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	Percent of Class <sup>(3)</sup>
Banc Funds Company 208 S. LaSalle Street Chicago, IL 60604		399,026 <sup>(4)</sup>	6.51%
Mark N. Baker	Director, Vice Chairman of the Board	83,998 <sup>(5)</sup>	1.4%
Gary W. Deems	Chairman of the Board	111,917 <sup>(6)</sup>	1.8%
Alan L. Douglas	Director	29,375 <sup>(7)</sup>	0.5%
G. Bruce Dunn	Director	175,383 <sup>(8)</sup>	2.9%
Robert H.S. Kirkpatrick	Director	25,372 <sup>(9)</sup>	0.4%
Donald W. Murray	Executive Vice President/ Chief Credit Officer	68,915 <sup>(10)</sup>	1.1%
Philip D. Oberhansley	Director	1,434 <sup>(11)</sup>	0.0%
Thomas A. Page	Director	63,965 <sup>(12)</sup>	1.0%
Michael J. Perdue	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	87,546 <sup>(13)</sup>	1.4%
Richard M. Sanborn	Executive Vice President/ Chief Administrative Officer	33,731 <sup>(14)</sup>	0.6%
Corey A. Seale	Director	48,623 <sup>(15)</sup>	0.8%
Thomas E. Swanson	Director	234,036 <sup>(16)</sup>	3.8%
M. Faye Wilson	Director	11,110 <sup>(17)</sup>	0.2%
Gary M. Youmans	Executive Vice President/ Director	112,467 <sup>(18)</sup>	1.8%
All directors and executive officers of Community Bancorp as a group (14 persons)		1,087,872 <sup>(19)</sup>	17.3%

(1) Unless otherwise indicated the address for all persons listed is c/o Community Bancorp Inc., 900 Canterbury Place, Suite 300, Escondido, California, 92025.

(2) Unless otherwise indicated in these notes and subject to applicable community property laws and shared voting and investment power with a spouse, each director and executive officer listed above possesses sole voting power and sole investment power for the shares of the Community Bancorp common stock listed.

(3) This table is based upon information supplied by officers, directors, principal stockholders and Schedules 13D and 13G filed with the SEC. Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Applicable percentage ownership is based on 6,125,945 shares of common stock outstanding as of July 21, 2006. Shares of common stock subject to options and warrants currently exercisable, or exercisable within 60 days of July 21, 2006, are deemed outstanding for computing the ownership percentage of the person holding such options or warrants, but are not deemed outstanding for computing the ownership percentage of any other person.

(4) As of March 31, 2006.

(5)

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Includes 44,156 shares held in a retirement trust for his benefit, 24,032 shares held in a trust for the benefit of him and his spouse and 15,810 shares of common stock subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days.

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- (6) Includes 89,308 shares of common stock held in an IRA for his benefit, 5,892 shares in a trust for the benefit of him and his spouse, 407 shares held in an IRA for the benefit of his wife, and 11,310 shares subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days.
- (7) Includes 7,869 shares held in an IRA for his benefit and 21,506 shares in a trust for the benefit of him and his spouse.
- (8) Includes 80,656 shares held indirectly through three retirement pension plans for his benefit, 90,705 shares held in trust for the benefit of him and his spouse and 22 shares in trust for his son.
- (9) Includes 7,409 shares held indirectly in a retirement trust for his benefit and 16,507 shares of common stock subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days.
- (10) Includes 46,582 shares held in a trust for the benefit of him and his spouse and 22,333 shares held indirectly in two retirement trusts for his benefit.
- (11) Includes 1,000 shares of common stock subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days.
- (12) Includes 50,541 shares held indirectly in a trust for the benefit of him and his spouse and 13,424 shares of common stock subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days.
- (13) Includes 32,885 shares held indirectly in a trust for the benefit of him and his spouse, 51,477 shares in retirement plans for his benefit and 3,184 shares of common stock subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days.
- (14) Includes 14,470 shares held in a family trust, 16,056 shares in retirement plans for his benefit and 3,205 shares in a retirement plan for the benefit of his spouse.
- (15) Includes 45,548 shares held in a family trust and 1,800 shares held indirectly through retirement trusts for his benefit.
- (16) Includes 107,483 shares held in a family trust for the benefit of him and his spouse, 28,817 shares held in retirement plans for his benefit and 97,736 shares of common stock subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days.
- (17) Includes 2,381 shares held indirectly in a family trust for her benefit and 7,349 shares of common stock subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days.
- (18) Includes 44,816 shares held indirectly in a family trust for the benefit of him and his spouse, 21,921 shares held in retirement plans for his benefit and 606 shares in a retirement plan for the benefit of his spouse.
- (19) Includes 166,320 shares of common stock subject to stock options exercisable within 60 days.

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**THE SPECIAL MEETING OF FIRST COMMUNITY BANCORP SHAREHOLDERS**

This joint proxy statement-prospectus constitutes the proxy statement of First Community Bancorp, for use at the special meeting of First Community's shareholders to be held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, at \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_, and any adjournments or postponements thereof. At the special meeting, shareholders of First Community will consider and vote upon a proposal to amend the bylaws of First Community to provide that the number of directors on the First Community board will range from seven to fifteen with the exact number at any time to be determined by resolution of the board of directors, as well as to consider and act upon a proposal to approve adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to a later date or dates in order to be able to solicit additional proxies for approval of the bylaw amendment from shareholders, if that becomes necessary.

Currently, the bylaws provide that the First Community board will consist of seven to twelve directors. Specifically, Section 2.1 of the bylaws provides as follows:

Section 2.1 *Powers; Number; Qualifications*. The business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by, and all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under, the direction of the Board of Directors, except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws or in the articles of incorporation.

The number of directors of the corporation shall be five (5) until the effective date of the corporation's acquisition of First Community Bank of the Desert, on which date the number of directors of the corporation shall be not less than seven (7) nor more than twelve (12) until changed by amendment of the articles of incorporation or by a by-law amending this Section 2.1 duly adopted by the vote or written consent of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote, provided that a proposal to reduce the authorized number or the minimum number of directors below five (5) within the limits specified in the articles of incorporation or in this Section 2.1: (i) by resolution duly adopted by the vote of a majority of the shares entitled to vote represented at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present, or (ii) by a by-law or amendment thereof duly adopted by the vote of a majority of the shares entitled to vote represented at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present, or by a written consent of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote, or by the board of directors; or (iii) by approval of the shareholders (as defined in Section 153 of the California General Corporation Law).

Subject to the foregoing provisions for changing the number of directors, effective upon the date of the corporation's acquisition of First Community Bank of the Desert the number of directors of this corporation shall be fixed at nine (9).

You are being asked to approve an amendment to the bylaws such that Section 2.1 of the bylaws will read as follows:

Section 2.1 *Powers; Number; Qualifications*. The business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by, and all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under, the direction of the Board of Directors, except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws or in the articles of incorporation.

The number of directors of the corporation shall be from seven (7) to fifteen (15), the exact number thereof to be determined from time to time by the Board by resolution.

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Currently, there are eleven members of the First Community board of directors. The amendment to the bylaws will, among other things, allow First Community to fulfill its obligation under the merger agreement to appoint two members of the Community Bancorp board of directors to the First Community board of directors at completion of the merger.

In addition, the proposed amendment will eliminate the requirement that each further change in the range of directorships require a new vote of First Community's shareholders. First Community believes that the elimination of this shareholder vote requirement will provide the First Community board with the flexibility necessary or appropriate to promptly respond to changes in corporate governance needs and best practices from time to time. In addition, the amendment will not limit the ability of First Community's shareholders under

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applicable California law and First Community's articles of incorporation and bylaws, subject to compliance with California law and the articles and bylaws, to propose and/or adopt amendments to the bylaws. However, the ability of the First Community board to change the range or number of directorships could have the effect of preventing or impeding a change in control of First Community.

No vote of First Community shareholders on the merger itself is required. However, it is a condition to the parties' obligation under the merger agreement that First Community shareholders approve the proposal to amend the bylaws. Accordingly, we cannot complete the merger unless the bylaw amendment is approved or the parties agree to waive that condition.

## **Record Date**

The close of business on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006 was the record date for determining First Community shareholders entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting.

## **Voting; Quorum; Vote Required**

On the record date, there were \_\_\_\_\_ shares of First Community common stock outstanding held by approximately \_\_\_\_\_ holders of record. Each holder of First Community common stock is entitled to one vote for each share of First Community common stock in that holder's name on First Community's books as of the record date on any matter submitted to the vote of the First Community shareholders at the special meeting. A majority of the shares entitled to vote, represented in person or by proxy, constitutes a quorum at the meeting.

Approval of the proposal to amend the bylaws of First Community to increase the maximum number of directors on its board of directors from 12 to 15 will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of First Community common stock entitled to vote.

**Because the vote to approve the amendment to First Community's bylaws is based upon the total number of outstanding shares of First Community common stock, the failure to submit a proxy card or to vote in person, or the abstention from voting by a shareholder, will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal.**

At the close of business on the record date, the First Community directors beneficially owned, in the aggregate, approximately \_\_\_\_\_ shares of First Community common stock, allowing them to exercise approximately \_\_\_\_\_ % of the voting power of First Community common stock entitled to vote at the First Community special meeting (which does not include shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options or shares held under First Community's Deferred Compensation Plan which the directors and officers were not entitled to vote as of the record date). These shareholders have agreed to vote their shares in favor of the proposal to amend First Community's bylaws, as more fully described in The Merger Agreement Shareholder Agreements beginning on page 68.

Shareholders of First Community may vote their shares of common stock by attending the special meeting and voting their shares in person, or by completing the enclosed proxy card, signing and dating it and mailing it in the enclosed self-addressed postage-paid envelope in a timely manner. If you vote by proxy, your proxy will be voted in accordance with the instructions you indicate on the proxy card, unless you revoke

your proxy prior to the vote. The proxy also grants authority to the person designated in the proxy to vote in accordance with their own judgment if an unscheduled matter is properly brought before the meeting. **If a written proxy card is signed by a shareholder of First Community and returned without instructions, the shares represented by the proxy will be voted FOR the proposal described above and any adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies.**

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### **Recommendation of the Board of Directors**

**THE FIRST COMMUNITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND FIRST COMMUNITY S BYLAWS AND, IF NECESSARY, FOR ADJOURNMENT OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE MEETING.**

A proxy solicited by the First Community board of directors may be revoked at any time before it is voted at the special meeting by:

giving written notice to the corporate secretary of First Community;

submission of a proxy bearing a later date filed with the corporate secretary of First Community at or before the meeting by mail; or

attending the special meeting and voting in person at the meeting.

While no other business is expected to be transacted at the special meeting other than the proposal to vote on the bylaws amendment, First Community shareholders may be asked to consider and act upon other business matters or proposals as may properly come before the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

### **Adjournments**

Although it is not anticipated, the special meeting may be adjourned for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies in favor of the proposal to amend the bylaws. Any adjournment of the special meeting may be made without notice, other than by an announcement made at the special meeting. Any adjournment of the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies will allow First Community s shareholders who have already sent in their proxies to revoke them at any time prior to their use.

### **First Community Shares Held in Street Name**

First Community shareholders who hold their shares in street name, meaning in the name of a bank, broker or other record holder, must either direct the record holder of their shares how to vote their shares or obtain a proxy from the record holder to vote at the special meeting.

**Brokers holding shares of First Community common stock as nominees will not have discretionary authority to vote those shares in the absence of instructions from the beneficial owners of those shares on the proposal to amend First Community s bylaws. Accordingly, the failure to provide voting instructions to your broker will also have the same effect as a vote against the proposal to amend the bylaws.**



**Proxy Solicitation**

The accompanying proxy is being solicited by the board of directors of First Community. First Community will bear the entire cost of solicitation of proxies from holders of its shares. In addition to the solicitation of proxies by mail, certain officers, directors and employees of First Community, without extra remuneration, may also solicit proxies in person, by telephone, by facsimile or otherwise. First Community will pay printing, postage and mailing costs for preparation and mailing of the joint proxy statement-prospectus to its shareholders. All other costs, including legal and accounting fees, shall be borne by the party incurring such costs.

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### **THE MERGER**

#### **General**

The boards of directors of First Community and Community Bancorp have unanimously approved the merger agreement providing for the merger of Community Bancorp with and into First Community and the subsequent merger of Community National Bank, a national banking association and wholly owned subsidiary of Community Bancorp, with and into First National Bank, a national banking association and wholly owned subsidiary of First Community.

#### **Merger Consideration**

The merger agreement provides for a fixed exchange ratio of 0.735 of a share of First Community common stock for each share of Community Bancorp common stock, subject to possible adjustment as described below.

An adjustment to the exchange ratio may occur if (1) the average closing price of First Community common stock (which we refer to as the First Community average closing price) measured over a 15 trading day period ending on the second trading day prior to the closing date of the merger (which we refer to as the closing measuring period) is greater than \$66.69 or less than \$49.29, and (2) the percentage increase or decline represented by the change between the First Community average closing price and an initial price for First Community common stock (specified as \$57.99 in the merger agreement) is sufficiently disproportionate to the percentage increase or decline represented by the change between the average closing price for the KBW Bank Index over the closing measuring period and an initial KBW Bank Index price (specified as 111.48 in the merger agreement).

Specifically, if the First Community average closing price is greater than \$66.69 per share, and that represents a 15% or greater increase over the change in the KBW Bank Index measured as described above, First Community may terminate the merger agreement unless Community Bancorp agrees to adjust the exchange ratio by multiplying the exchange ratio of 0.735 by the quotient obtained by dividing \$66.69 by the First Community average closing price. On the other hand, if the First Community average closing price is less than \$49.29 per share, and that represents a 15% or greater decline over the change in the KBW Bank Index measured as described above, Community Bancorp may terminate the merger agreement unless First Community agrees to adjust the exchange ratio by multiplying the exchange ratio of 0.735 by the quotient obtained by dividing \$49.29 by the First Community average closing price.

For example, if the First Community average closing price is \$68.00 per share and the average price for the KBW Bank Index is 114.00 (a more than 15% difference compared to the change in the First Community stock price) during the closing measuring period, then First Community may terminate the merger agreement unless Community Bancorp agrees to adjust the exchange ratio to 0.721. If the First Community average closing price is \$75.00 per share and the average price for the KBW Bank Index is 130.0 (less than a 15% difference compared to the change in the First Community stock price) during the closing measuring period, then First Community may not terminate the merger agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, First Community will not have a right to terminate if First Community publicly announces that it has entered into a definitive agreement with respect to the acquisition of First Community by a third party.

As an additional example, if the First Community average closing price is \$48.00 per share and the average price for the KBW Bank Index is 109.00 during the closing measuring period (a more than 15% difference compared to the change in the First Community stock price), then

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Community Bancorp may terminate the merger agreement unless First Community agrees to adjust the exchange ratio to 0.755. If the First Community average closing price is \$40.00 per share and the average price for the KBW Bank Index is 90.00 (less than a 15% difference compared to the change in the First Community stock price) during the closing measuring period, then Community Bancorp may terminate the merger agreement unless First Community agrees to adjust the exchange ratio to 0.906.

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### **Background of the Merger**

Community Bancorp Inc., or Community Bancorp, has been providing commercial banking services through its wholly owned subsidiary, Community National Bank, to individuals and small to medium-sized businesses in San Diego and Riverside counties since 1985.

Community Bancorp has occasionally received informal inquiries with respect to proposed mergers or acquisitions through Gary W. Deems, chairman of the board, or Michael J. Perdue, president and chief executive officer. These inquiries were discussed with Community Bancorp's strategic alternatives committee (consisting of Mr. Deems, Mr. Baker, Mr. Perdue and Ms. Wilson), and Mr. Deems or Mr. Perdue kept the board of directors informed of these informal contacts. At the time of any such inquiry, the board and senior management of Community Bancorp determined that Community Bancorp would and should be receptive to offers that would maximize stockholder value consistent with its fiduciary duties, while at the same time continuing to build a successful and profitable banking franchise.

Informal contact between Community Bancorp and First Community occurred in November of 2004 between Mr. Deems and Mr. Perdue, on the one hand, and First Community's chairman of the board, Mr. John M. Eggemeyer, and president and chief executive officer, Mr. Matthew P. Wagner. No agreement at that point was reached by the parties on a possible transaction and discussions were terminated.

In mid-2005 Mr. Perdue was contacted by another financial institution who expressed interest in acquiring Community Bancorp. After several discussions that occurred over the next few months with Mr. Perdue, Mr. Deems and the strategic alternatives committee, a verbal expression of interest was made by the other financial institution to acquire Community Bancorp through a 100% stock deal valued at approximately \$280,000,000. After reviewing the proposal, the board of directors held discussions with its financial advisor concerning the combination, the future success of the companies and the current valuation of the other financial institution in the proposed transaction. The board of directors authorized further discussions and mutual due diligence. After due diligence, Community Bancorp and the other financial institution were not able to reach final agreement on various terms and conditions and discussions were terminated in early February 2006.

In February 2006, Mr. Wagner advised the executive committee of the First Community board of directors of First Community's interest in holding discussions with Community Bancorp. On February 23, 2006, Mr. Wagner and Mr. Perdue held informal discussions concerning a possible transaction with First Community. Mr. Perdue informed Mr. Deems of the discussion with Mr. Wagner and passed along the information to Community Bancorp's strategic alternatives committee.

On March 1, 2006, Community Bancorp received an expression of interest and non-binding preliminary term sheet from Castle Creek Financial on behalf of First Community. Community Bancorp also received a draft confidentiality agreement. Upon receiving the letter and confidentiality agreement, Mr. Perdue met with the strategic alternatives committee who decided that the offer was worth considering and authorized Mr. Perdue to execute the confidentiality agreement. The details of the letter and term sheet were discussed, which included a proposal to exchange shares of First Community common stock for all outstanding shares of Community Bancorp common stock, at a fixed price of \$278.7 million in the aggregate or \$43.00 per share of Community Bancorp common stock and with a floating exchange ratio to be determined based upon First Community's common stock price prior to closing. The committee decided that a fixed price was not desirable and that in fact a fixed exchange ratio would be preferable in an all stock deal, with the value per Community Bancorp share allowed to float with the value of First Community's stock until closing. At the committee's direction, Mr. Perdue contacted Mr. Eggemeyer and they discussed the committee's desire for a fixed exchange ratio.

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On March 3, 2006, Community Bancorp received a revised non-binding preliminary expression of interest letter with a fixed exchange ratio of 0.735 of a share of First Community common stock for each share of Community Bancorp common stock, which represented a value of \$44.39 per share or \$285.2 million based upon

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the closing price of First Community common stock on March 2, 2006 of \$60.40 per share. Mr. Perdue met with the strategic alternatives committee on March 6, 2006 and they discussed the letter and attached term sheet. After a lengthy discussion, the committee felt the offer was worth considering and that they should continue discussions with First Community.

On March 6, 2006, Mr. Wagner advised the First Community board of directors of the preliminary discussions with Community Bancorp, and the board authorized management to continue consideration of a proposed transaction and to conduct due diligence with respect to Community Bancorp.

Mr. Perdue met with Mr. Wagner on March 8, 2006 to discuss various issues with regard to the possible combination of the two organizations. On March 9, 2006, Mr. Deems, Mr. Perdue and Mr. Baker met with Mr. Eggemeyer and Mr. Wagner to discuss the transaction, the non-binding preliminary expression of interest letter and the preliminary term sheet. Various terms of the non-binding preliminary expression of interest and the strategic rationale for the transaction were discussed along with the performance of both institutions and the banking franchise that would be created by the transaction. The strategic alternatives committee then met that evening to discuss the non-binding preliminary expression of interest and transaction and the changes that they felt would be appropriate.

On March 16, 2006, a revised non-binding preliminary expression of interest letter was received from Castle Creek Financial incorporating the changes to the proposed terms and conditions that the strategic alternatives committee had requested. The committee reviewed the revised letter, determined that there was enough potential merit to justify further discussions and decided to discuss it with the full board of directors at the March board meeting.

On March 20, 2006, the strategic alternatives committee held a meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona with various board members and representatives of Community Bancorp's legal counsel and financial advisor. Along with Mr. Deems, Mr. Perdue and Mr. Baker, others in attendance were board members Mr. G. Bruce Dunn, Mr. Corey A. Seale and Mr. Gary M. Youmans, attorney John F. Stuart of Reitner, Stuart and Moore and Mr. Jeffrey Wishner and Mr. Bruce Rossignol from Keefe, Bruyette and Woods, Inc., or KBW. The proposed transaction was reviewed in detail by KBW and Mr. Stuart and a lengthy discussion led to a consensus that Community Bancorp should consider the proposed transaction, recommend pursuing the proposed transaction to the full board and conduct due diligence.

On March 29, 2006, the full board of directors met in executive session to review the non-binding preliminary expression of interest letter and the proposed transaction. In attendance were directors Mr. Deems, Mr. Baker, Mr. Perdue, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Seale, Mr. Youmans, Mr. Phillip D. Oberhansley, Mr. Robert H. S. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Alan L. Douglas, Mr. Thomas A. Page, Mr. Thomas E. Swanson and Ms. M. Faye Wilson. Mr. Stuart joined by telephone and Mr. Wishner and Mr. Rossignol from KBW were also in attendance. Mr. Deems and Mr. Perdue described for the board the discussions that had taken place with First Community over the last month and recapped the preliminary expression of interest letter including the proposed terms and conditions for a transaction. Mr. Deems then stated that the strategic alternatives committee had decided to retain KBW to render a fairness opinion if the discussions led to an agreement and turned the meeting over to the representatives of KBW. The representatives of KBW reviewed the transaction, the current market and pricing of similar transactions, the proposed multiples implied by the transaction and their financial model and merger analysis.

After a great deal of discussion among the board members, the board agreed unanimously to move forward with the scheduling of mutual due diligence, and directed the strategic alternatives committee to continue discussions with First Community concerning the non-binding preliminary expression of interest letter.

On Monday, April 3, 2006, Mr. Perdue met with Mr. Wagner to review various issues with respect to the proposed transaction.



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On Monday, April 10, 2006, Mr. Perdue, with the approval of the strategic alternatives committee, executed on behalf of Community Bancorp an exclusivity agreement with First Community in connection with the possible negotiated transaction for a period ending the earlier of May 17, 2006 or the execution of a definitive agreement.

On April 5, 2006, First Community commenced preliminary due diligence with respect to Community Bancorp.

On April 19, 2006, the board of directors of Community Bancorp met in executive session to discuss the proposed transaction. Mr. Deems reported on First Community's preliminary due diligence and reported on his discussions with representatives of First Community regarding that preliminary due diligence. He indicated that the strategic alternatives committee had met telephonically with Mr. Eggemeyer, Mr. Wagner and the chief financial officer and general counsel of First Community to discuss First Community's due diligence and that the members of the committee were very impressed with First Community's management team who they believed to be very professional and knowledgeable. Mr. Deems told the board that Community Bancorp would conduct its due diligence over the next few weeks, continue the negotiation of a definitive agreement and then report back to the board.

In the weeks following this meeting, the two institutions completed their due diligence with respect to each other and, through the course of several meetings and numerous discussions, negotiated the draft merger agreement. On May 3, 2006, the First Community board received updates from management concerning the status of the discussions between the parties.

On May 12, 2006, First Community's board of directors held a special meeting to consider the proposed merger transaction with Community Bancorp, including the draft merger agreement. Representatives of management presented information on Community Bancorp and the proposed merger with Community Bancorp and on the results of First Community's due diligence with respect to Community Bancorp. After a lengthy discussion, the First Community board of directors authorized management to complete negotiation of the merger and merger agreement with Community Bancorp and enter into the merger agreement.

At a special meeting of the Community Bancorp board on May 15, 2006, Community's legal counsel, Mr. John Stuart of Reitner, Stuart and Moore, carefully reviewed the legal aspects of the merger, the terms and provisions of the merger agreement and the directors' duties and responsibilities in connection with the proposed transaction. Mr. Wishner reviewed the financial aspects of the merger and delivered his firm's opinion that the consideration to be received by the Community Bancorp stockholders in the merger was fair to those stockholders from a financial point of view. The due diligence team reported on their findings with respect to First Community. The Community Bancorp board of directors then unanimously determined that the merger agreement and the merger are fair and in the best interests of Community Bancorp and its stockholders and approved the merger agreement.

The merger agreement was executed on the evening of May 15, 2006 by both parties and the merger was publicly announced before the opening of the markets on May 16, 2006.

## **Recommendation of, and Factors Considered by, Community Bancorp's Board of Directors**

The Community Bancorp board believes that the terms of the merger are fair to, and are in the best interests of, Community Bancorp and its stockholders and recommends that the stockholders of Community Bancorp vote FOR adoption of the merger agreement.



At a meeting of Community Bancorp's board of directors on May 15, 2006, after due consideration, the board:

determined that the merger agreement and the merger are fair and in the best interests of Community Bancorp and its stockholders;  
and

approved the merger agreement.

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In reaching its conclusion to proceed with the merger and recommend adoption of the merger agreement to its stockholders, Community Bancorp's board of directors considered information and advice from several specialists, including investment bankers and legal advisors. All material factors considered by Community Bancorp's board of directors have been disclosed. In approving the merger agreement, the board of directors considered a number of factors, including the following, without assigning any specific or relative weights to the factors:

Its understanding of Community Bancorp's business, operations, financial condition, earnings and prospects and of First Community's business, operations, financial condition, earnings and prospects, taking into account Community Bancorp's due diligence review of First Community.

Its view that the consideration provided for in the merger agreement represents fair consideration.

Its view that the terms of the merger agreement and other documents to be executed in connection with the merger, including the fixed exchange ratio, the closing conditions and termination rights, are fair.

Its view that the capital of the consolidated institution will provide a better opportunity to expand and leverage the overall expense structure of the consolidated company.

The implied value represented by the exchange ratio provided for in the merger agreement relative to the current market price and historical trading prices of Community Bancorp and First Community and the board's determination that the implied value represented a substantial premium for Community Bancorp's stockholders;

The significance of a fixed exchange ratio structure and that such a structure would more properly reflect the long-term value assessment of the Community Bancorp board of directors than would a structure under which short-term market volatility could impact the parties' contractual obligations.

The current and prospective economic environment and increasing regulatory and competitive burdens and constraints facing financial institutions generally.

The consolidation occurring in the banking industry and the increased competition from other financial institutions in California.

The similarity of cultures and other attributes of Community Bancorp and First Community.

The liquidity of First Community common stock.

The opportunity for Community Bancorp stockholders to participate in the potential future growth in value of the combined company as First Community shareholders following the merger.

The board of director's review, with its legal and financial advisors, of alternatives to the merger, the range and possible value to Community Bancorp's stockholders obtainable through such alternatives and the timing and likelihood of the alternatives.

Presentations by members of Community Bancorp's senior management, including the results of their due diligence review of First Community.

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The expected treatment of the merger as a tax-free reorganization for U.S. federal income tax purposes, which the board concluded would be beneficial for Community Bancorp's stockholders.

The expertise of First Community's management, its competitive position in the geographic markets and the proximity and overlap of the geographic markets served by First Community and Community Bancorp.

The capacities of First Community and Community Bancorp for enhanced operating business, operations, financial condition, earnings and prospects efficiencies.

The financial analyses and presentation of Community Bancorp's investment banking firm and its opinion that the consideration to be received by Community Bancorp stockholders in the merger is fair, from a financial point of view, to those stockholders.

The likelihood that the merger will be completed on a timely basis, including the likelihood that the merger will receive all necessary regulatory approvals.

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The role Community Bancorp's current management would play in the management of one of First Community's subsidiaries and that two members of Community Bancorp's board would become members of First Community's board.

The Community Bancorp board of directors also identified and considered a number of risks and uncertainties in its deliberations concerning the merger, including the following:

The possible disruption to Community Bancorp's business that may result from the announcement of the transaction and the resulting distraction of its management's attention from the day-to-day operations of Community Bancorp's business.

The difficulty inherent in integrating two businesses and the risk that the cost efficiencies, synergies and other benefits expected to be obtained in the transaction may not be fully realized.

The interests of Community Bancorp's executive officers and directors with respect to the merger apart from their interests as holders of Community Bancorp common stock, and the risk that these interests might influence their decision with respect to the merger.

The restrictions contained in the merger agreement on the operation of Community Bancorp's business during the period between the signing of the merger agreement and completion of the merger.

The termination fee to be paid to First Community if the merger agreement is terminated under certain circumstances and that such fee could have the effect of discouraging other parties that might be interested in a transaction with Community Bancorp from proposing such a transaction.

The possibility that the merger might not be completed and the effect of the resulting public announcement of termination of the merger agreement on, among other things, Community Bancorp's operating results, particularly in light of the costs incurred in connection with the transaction.

Community Bancorp does not intend the foregoing discussion of the factors considered by the board of directors of Community Bancorp to be exhaustive, but does believe it includes the material factors considered. The board of directors of Community Bancorp did not attempt to analyze the fairness of the exchange ratio in isolation from its consideration of the businesses of Community Bancorp and First Community, the strategic merits of the merger or the other considerations referred to above.

## **Opinion of Community Bancorp's Financial Advisor**

Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc., or KBW, has acted as financial advisor to Community Bancorp in connection with the merger. Community Bancorp selected KBW because KBW is a nationally recognized investment-banking firm with substantial experience in transactions similar to the merger and is familiar with Community Bancorp and its business. As part of its investment banking business, KBW is continually engaged in the valuation of financial businesses and their securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions.

On May 15, 2006, Community Bancorp's board of directors held a special meeting to approve the merger agreement. At that meeting, KBW rendered an oral and written opinion that, as of that date and based upon and subject to the factors and assumptions set forth in its written opinion, the consideration to be received by Community Bancorp's stockholders in the merger (an exchange ratio of 0.735 of a share of First

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Community common stock for each share of Community Bancorp common stock outstanding and cash of like amount for the unexercised stock options outstanding) was fair to the stockholders from a financial point of view.

The full text of KBW's written opinion is attached as Appendix B to this document and is incorporated herein by reference. Community Bancorp stockholders are urged to read the opinion in its entirety for a description of the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by KBW.

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KBW's opinion is directed to the Community Bancorp board and addresses only the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the merger consideration to Community Bancorp's stockholders. It does not address the underlying business decision to proceed with the merger and does not constitute a recommendation to any Community Bancorp stockholder as to how the stockholder should vote at the Community Bancorp special meeting on the merger agreement or any related matter.

In rendering its opinion, KBW:

reviewed, among other things:

the merger agreement;

annual reports to stockholders and Annual Reports on Form 10-K of First Community for the three years ended December 31, 2005;

annual reports to stockholders and Annual Reports on Form 10-K of Community Bancorp for the three years ended December 31, 2005;

recent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q of First Community;

recent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q of Community Bancorp;

other recent communications from Community Bancorp and First Community;

other financial information concerning the businesses and operations of Community Bancorp and First Community furnished to KBW by Community Bancorp and First Community for the purposes of KBW's analysis;

certain publicly available information concerning the trading of, and the trading market for, the common stock of Community Bancorp and First Community;

certain publicly available information with respect to publicly traded companies and the nature and terms of certain other transactions that KBW considered relevant to its inquiry; and

held discussions with members of senior management of Community Bancorp and First Community regarding:

past and current operations, financial condition and regulatory relationships of the respective companies,

future prospects of the respective companies, and

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the strategic objective of the merger and certain other benefits of the merger;

reviewed the market prices, valuation multiples, publicly reported financial conditions and results of operations for Community Bancorp and for First Community and compared them with those of certain publicly traded companies that KBW deemed to be relevant; and

compared the proposed financial terms of the merger with the financial terms of certain other transactions that KBW deemed to be relevant; and

performed such other analyses that it considered appropriate.

In conducting its review and arriving at its opinion, KBW relied upon and assumed the accuracy and completeness of all of the financial and other information provided to or otherwise made available to KBW or that was discussed with, or reviewed by or for KBW, or that was publicly available. KBW did not assume any responsibility to verify such information independently. KBW assumed that the financial and operating forecasts for Community Bancorp and First Community provided by managements of Community Bancorp and First Community have been reasonably prepared and reflect the best currently available estimates and judgments of senior management of Community Bancorp and First Community as to the future financial and operating performance of Community Bancorp and First Community. KBW assumed, without independent verification,

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that the aggregate allowances for loan and lease losses for Community Bancorp are adequate to cover those losses. KBW did not make or obtain any evaluations or appraisals of any assets or liabilities of First Community or Community Bancorp, and KBW did not examine any books and records or review individual credit files.

For purposes of rendering its opinion, KBW assumed that, in all respects material to its analyses:

the merger will be completed substantially in accordance with the terms set forth in the merger agreement;

the representations and warranties of each party in the merger agreement and in all related documents and instruments referred to in the merger agreement are true and correct;

each party to the merger agreement and all related documents will perform all of the covenants and agreements required to be performed by such party under such documents;

all conditions to the completion of the merger will be satisfied without any waivers; and

in the course of obtaining the necessary regulatory, contractual or other consents or approvals for the merger, no restrictions, including any divestiture requirements or amendments or modifications will be imposed that will have a material adverse effect on the future results of operations or financial condition of Community Bancorp, First Community or the combined entity, as the case may be, or the contemplated benefits of the merger.

KBW's opinion is not an expression of an opinion as to the prices at which shares of Community Bancorp common stock or First Community common stock will trade following the announcement of the merger or the actual value of First Community common stock when issued pursuant to the merger, or the prices at which First Community common stock will trade following the completion of the merger.

In performing its analyses, KBW made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance, general business, economic, market and financial conditions and other matters, many of which are beyond the control of KBW, Community Bancorp and First Community. Any estimates contained in the analyses performed by KBW are not necessarily indicative of actual values or future results, which may be significantly more or less favorable than suggested by these analyses. Additionally, estimates of the value of businesses or securities do not purport to be appraisals or to reflect the prices at which such businesses or securities might actually be sold. Accordingly, these analyses and estimates are inherently subject to substantial uncertainty. In addition, the KBW opinion was among several factors taken into consideration by the Community Bancorp board of directors in making its determination to approve the merger agreement and the merger. Consequently, the analyses described below should not be viewed as solely determinative of the decision of the Community Bancorp board or management of Community Bancorp with respect to the fairness of the merger consideration.

## **Summary of Analyses by KBW**

The following is a summary of the material analyses presented by KBW to the Community Bancorp board of directors on May 15, 2006, in connection with its written opinion. The summary is not a complete description of the analyses underlying the KBW opinion or the presentation made by KBW to the Community Bancorp board, but summarizes the material analyses performed and presented in connection with such opinion. The preparation of a fairness opinion is a complex analytic process involving various determinations as to the most appropriate and



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relevant methods of financial analysis and the application of those methods to the particular circumstances. Therefore, a fairness opinion is not readily susceptible to partial analysis or summary description. In arriving at its opinion, KBW did not attribute any particular weight to any analysis or factor that it considered, but rather made qualitative judgments as to the significance and relevance of each analysis and factor. The financial analyses summarized below include information presented in tabular format. Accordingly, KBW believes that its analyses and the summary of its analyses must be considered as a whole and that selecting portions of its analyses and factors or focusing on the information presented below in tabular format, without considering all analyses and factors or the full narrative description of the financial analyses, including the

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methodologies and assumptions underlying the analyses, could create a misleading or incomplete view of the process underlying its analyses and opinion. The tables alone are not a complete description of the financial analyses.

*Transaction Overview.* In providing an overview of the merger, KBW noted that while the merger consideration of \$279.3 million is calculated based on a fixed exchange ratio of 0.735 of a share of First Community common stock per share of Community Bancorp common stock, the aggregate transaction value will fluctuate based upon changes in First Community's stock price prior to closing. The transaction value per share of Community Bancorp common stock of \$43.53 was based on First Community's closing price of \$59.23 on May 9, 2006. Holders of options to acquire shares of Community Bancorp common stock that do not exercise their options prior to close will receive cash in an amount equal to the product of (i) the 0.735 exchange ratio and (2) the average closing price for First Community common stock for the 15 trading day period ending two business days prior to the closing date of the merger, less the strike price of the option. Completion of the transaction is subject to the approval of Community Bancorp's stockholders, required regulatory approvals and other conditions.

*Transaction Pricing Multiples.* KBW calculated the following multiples:

**Transaction Multiples (Community Bancorp data as of 3/31/06)**

Price/Last 12 Months EPS (\$2.28)	19.1x
Price/FY 2006 Management's Proj. EPS (\$2.55)	17.1x
Price/FY 2007 Management's Proj. EPS (\$2.85)	15.3x
Price/Book Value per Share (\$16.64)	2.62x
Price/Tangible Book Value per Share (\$9.13)	4.77x
Premium to Market Price (\$36.43)	19.5%
Tangible Premium/Core Deposits	41.7%

*Selected Transaction Analysis.* KBW reviewed certain financial data related to California bank transactions announced between January 1, 2005 to May 9, 2006. Those transactions were as follows:

**Acquiror**

Vineyard National Bancorp  
Placer Sierra Bancshares  
Umpqua Holdings Corp.  
Wescom Credit Union  
Bank of East Asia Ltd.  
First Community Bancorp  
ICB Financial  
Commercial Capital Bancorp  
Rabobank Nederland  
First Community Bancorp  
East West Bancorp Inc.  
First Community Bancorp  
MetroCorp Bancshares Inc.  
First Banks Inc.  
First Community Bancorp  
Community Bancorp Inc.  
Landmark National Bank  
Pacific Capital Bancorp

**Acquiree**

Rancho Bank  
Southwest Community Bancorp  
Western Sierra Bancorp  
Silvergate Capital Corp.  
National American Bancorp  
Foothill Independent Bancorp  
Western State Bank  
CalNet Business Bank NA  
Central Coast Bancorp  
Cedars Bank  
United National Bank  
Pacific Liberty Bank  
First United Bank  
International Bank of California  
First American Bank  
Rancho Bernardo Community Bank  
Legacy Bank NA  
First Bancshares Inc.



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In addition, KBW reviewed certain financial data related to national bank transactions announced between January 1, 2005 to May 9, 2006 with aggregate transaction values greater than \$150 million and less than \$500 million. Those transactions were as follows:

<u>Acquiror</u>	<u>Acquiree</u>
MB Financial Inc.	First Oak Brook Bancshares
TD Banknorth Inc.	Interchange Financial Services
Trustmark Corp.	Republic Bancshares of Texas
Placer Sierra Bancshares	Southwest Community Bancorp
Umpqua Holdings Corp.	Western Sierra Bancorp
Grupo Financiero Banorte	INB Financial Corporation
Marshall & Ilsley Corp.	Trustcorp Financial Inc.
First Community Bancorp	Foothill Independent Bancorp
First Midwest Bancorp Inc.	Bank of Calumet Inc.
Prosperity Bancshares Inc.	SNB Bancshares Inc.
Susquehanna Bancshares Inc.	Minotola National Bank
Rabobank Nederland	Central Coast Bancorp
New York Community Bancorp	Atlantic Bank of New York
Pinnacle Financial Partners	Cavalry Bancorp Inc.
Compass Bancshares Inc.	TexasBanc Holding Company
Synovus Financial Corp.	Riverside Bancshares Inc.
Fulton Financial Corp.	Columbia Bancorp
East West Bancorp Inc.	United National Bank
Associated Banc-Corp.	State Financial Services Corp.
Mercantile Bankshares Corp.	Community Bank of N. Virginia
Willow Grove Bancorp Inc.	Chester Valley Bancorp Inc.

For the purpose of this analysis, transaction multiples from the merger were derived from the \$43.53 implied per share deal value at May 9, 2006 and financial data as of March 31, 2006 for Community Bancorp. KBW compared these results with the multiples implied by the selected transactions listed above. The results of KBW's calculations and the analysis are set forth in the following table.

	<b>First Community/Community Bancorp Transaction</b>	<b>CA Bank Transactions 2005-2006 Median</b>	<b>National Bank Transactions 2005-2006 with Transaction Value b/n \$150 &amp; \$500 mln Median</b>
Deal Price / Book Value	2.62x	2.63x	3.00x
Deal Price / Tangible Book Value	4.77x	2.82x	3.25x
Deal Price / Trailing 12 Months Earnings per Share	19.1x	20.0x	22.2x
Premium to Market Value	19.5%	16.9%	16.6%
Deal Premium / Core Deposits	41.7%	22.2%	26.4%

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No company or transaction used as a comparison in the above analysis is identical to Community Bancorp, First Community or the merger. Accordingly, an analysis of these results is not mathematical. Rather, it involves complex considerations and judgments concerning differences in financial and operating characteristics of the companies

*Discounted Cash Flow Analysis.* KBW estimated the present value of Community Bancorp's common stock based on a continued independence scenario by calculating the present value of the Community Bancorp projected cash flows. KBW's analysis assumes that excess capital above a 7.0% tangible equity/tangible assets ratio represents free cash flow available for dividends. For purposes of this analysis, a discount rate was calculated based on a model assessing a risk-free interest rate plus a market-based risk adjustment resulting in a

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range of discount rates of 12.5% to 17.5%. KBW relied on financial projections provided by Community Bancorp management and assumed a terminal value of 14 to 16 times projected earnings. The analysis resulted in a range of values from \$29.29 to \$39.96 per Community Bancorp share of common stock.

The discounted cash flow present value analysis is a widely used valuation methodology but it relies on numerous assumptions, including asset and earnings growth rates, terminal values and discount rates. The KBW analysis did not purport to be indicative of the actual values or expected values of Community Bancorp common stock.

*Pro Forma Earnings and Capital Impact Analysis.* KBW performed a pro forma financial analysis for the merger. Assumptions regarding the core deposit intangible amortization and cost savings were used to calculate the projected financial impact that the merger would have on certain pro forma financial results of Community Bancorp and First Community. The following assumptions were made:

100% common stock consideration, based on a fixed exchange ratio, with a cash out of options, resulting in 94.0% stock and 6.0% cash consideration on a fully diluted basis;

Cost savings of 35% of Community Bancorp's projected non-interest expense, or \$12.5 million in pre-tax cost savings;

Core deposit intangibles equal to \$12.0 million, or 2.0% of Community Bancorp's core deposits, amortized using sum-of-the-years digits over 8 years;

6.0% cost of cash;

\$7.0 million in restructuring and closing costs;

First Community's pro forma financial information for the Foothill Independent Bancorp, or Foothill, acquisition; and

December 31, 2006 closing date for the Community Bancorp transaction.

	<b>Community</b>	<b>First Community</b>
	<b><u>Bancorp Accretion</u></b>	<b><u>Accretion</u></b>
2007 GAAP EPS accretion	9.2%	3.9%
2008 GAAP EPS accretion	8.4%	4.2%

KBW analyzed the pro forma capital impact to First Community arising from the Community Bancorp and Foothill transactions.

<b><u>Quarter Ended March 31,</u></b>	<b>First Community</b>	<b>Pro Forma Capital</b>
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	<u>Stand-Alone</u>	<u>Impact</u>
2007 Leverage Ratio	10.5%	10.1%
2007 Tier 1 Capital Ratio	10.4%	10.1%
2007 Total Capital Ratio	11.4%	11.0%

KBW also calculated the year end 2007 projected pro forma tangible book value accretion/dilution to First Community, while including the Community Bancorp and Foothill transactions.

<u>Year Ended December 31,</u>	<u>First Community</u> <u>Pro Forma Impact</u>
2007 Tangible Book Value/Share	\$ 16.31
	<b>First Community</b>
<u>Year Ended December 31,</u>	<u>Pro Forma</u> <u>Impact</u>
2007 Tangible Book Value/Share	(4.1)%

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KBW analyzed the pro forma dividend impact to Community Bancorp assuming a specified payout ratio for First Community.

	<b>Community Bancorp</b>
	<b>Accretion</b>
2007 Dividend/Share	37.0%
2008 Dividend/Share	27.1%

*Contribution analysis.* KBW analyzed the relative contribution of each of Community Bancorp and First Community to certain pro forma balance sheet and income statement items of the combined entity. KBW compared the relative contribution of balance sheet and income statement items with the estimated pro forma ownership percentage Community Bancorp stockholders would represent in First Community pro forma. The results of KBW's analysis are set forth in the following table (which also reflects completion of the Foothill acquisition). The information provided in the table below is as of March 31, 2006, except for market capitalization information which is based on the closing share prices as of May 9, 2006.

<b>Category</b>	<b>First Community</b>	<b>Community Bancorp</b>
Assets	83.9%	16.1%
Market Capitalization	87.0%	13.0%
Deposits	82.2%	17.8%
Common Equity	89.6%	10.4%
Tangible Equity	84.7%	15.3%
Loan Loss Reserves	78.8%	21.2%
2006e Net Income	84.8%	15.2%
2007e Net Income	85.7%	14.3%
Median Contribution of Above Measures	84.7%	15.3%
Implied Stock Ownership	85.0%	15.0%

*Other Analyses.* KBW compared the relative financial and market performance of Community Bancorp to a variety of relevant industry peer groups and indices.

As part of its investment banking business, KBW is continually engaged in the valuation of banking businesses and their securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions, negotiated underwritings, competitive biddings, secondary distributions of listed and unlisted securities, private placements and valuations for estate, corporate and other purposes. As specialists in the securities of banking companies, KBW has experience in, and knowledge of, the valuation of banking enterprises. In the ordinary course of its business as a broker-dealer, KBW may, from time to time, purchase securities from, and sell securities to, Community Bancorp and First Community. As a market maker in securities, KBW may from time to time have a long or short position in, and buy or sell, debt or equity securities of Community Bancorp and First Community for KBW's own account and for the accounts of its customers.

Community Bancorp and KBW have entered into an engagement agreement relating to the services to be provided by KBW in connection with the merger. Community Bancorp will pay to KBW at the time the merger is completed a cash fee equal to \$1,425,000 less the \$25,000 that has already been paid to KBW in the form of a retainer and the progress payment of \$200,000 to be paid upon mailing of this joint proxy statement-prospectus. Pursuant to the KBW engagement agreement, Community Bancorp also agreed to reimburse KBW for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses and disbursements incurred in connection with its retention and to indemnify it against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the federal securities laws.





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### **Reasons of First Community for the Merger**

The merger will enable First Community to expand and strengthen its community banking presence in San Diego and Riverside Counties in California by adding 12 branches with a strong customer base and compatible loan portfolio. During its deliberation regarding the approval of the merger agreement, the board of directors of First Community considered a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the following:

the geographic market in which Community Bancorp operates;

the culture of Community Bancorp and the reputation of Community Bancorp for community banking and financial services;

the compatibility of the merger with the long-term community banking strategy of First Community;

addition of complementary branches which expand First Community's footprint in San Diego and Riverside Counties and the increase in the number of locations from which to offer its banking products and services to the combined customer bases of First Community and Community Bancorp;

the ability of the combined company to offer a broader array of products and services to Community Bancorp's customers;

potential opportunities to reduce operating costs and enhance revenue; and

First Community management's prior record of integrating acquired financial institutions.

The foregoing discussion of the factors considered by First Community's board is not intended to be exhaustive, but is believed to include all material factors considered by First Community's board. In view of the wide variety of the factors considered in connection with its evaluation of the merger and the complexity of these matters, First Community's board did not find it useful, and did not attempt, to quantify, rank or otherwise assign relative weights to these factors. In considering the factors described above, the individual members of First Community's board may have given different weight to different factors. First Community's board of directors conducted an overall analysis of the factors described above including thorough discussions with, and questioning of, First Community management and First Community's legal advisors, and considered the factors overall to be favorable to and support its determination.

### **Regulatory Approvals Required for the Merger**

The closing of the merger is conditioned upon the receipt of all approvals of regulatory authorities required for the merger and the bank merger without the imposition of any restrictions or conditions that would reasonably be expected to (1) have a material adverse effect on Community Bancorp, (2) restrict the business of First Community or any of its subsidiaries in a manner that would have a material adverse effect following the closing with respect to Community Bancorp, First National Bank or Pacific Western National Bank, which are First Community's two principal bank subsidiaries, or (3) require the sale by Community Bancorp, First National Bank or Pacific Western National Bank of any material portion of their respective assets. Under the terms of the merger agreement, First Community and Community Bancorp have agreed to use their reasonable best efforts to obtain all necessary permits, consents, approvals and authorizations from any governmental authority necessary, proper or advisable to consummate the merger.

On July 11, 2006, First Community and Community Bancorp obtained the approval of the OCC for the bank merger contemplated hereby. In addition, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco must confirm that prior approval of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System is not required under the Bank Holding Company Act. A request for such exemption and confirmation will be filed in due course.

**Material United States Federal Income Tax Considerations of the Merger**

In the opinion of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, counsel to First Community, and Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, special tax counsel to Community Bancorp, the following section describes the anticipated material United States federal income tax consequences of the merger to holders of Community Bancorp common stock. This

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discussion addresses only those Community Bancorp stockholders that hold their Community Bancorp common stock as a capital asset within the meaning of section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (which we refer to in this section as the Code) and does not address all the United States federal income tax consequences that may be relevant to particular Community Bancorp stockholders in light of their individual circumstances or to Community Bancorp stockholders that are subject to special rules, such as:

financial institutions;

investors in pass-through entities;

tax-exempt organizations;

dealers in securities or currencies;

traders in securities that elect to use a mark to market method of accounting;

persons that hold Community Bancorp common stock as part of a straddle, hedge, constructive sale or conversion transaction;

persons who are not citizens or residents of the United States; and

stockholders who acquired their shares of Community Bancorp common stock through the exercise of an employee stock option or otherwise as compensation.

Also, this discussion does not address the consequences of the application of the mark-to-market rules of the Code, such as those contained in section 475 of the Code insofar as they relate to a close of a taxable year caused by the merger.

The following is based upon the Code, its legislative history, existing and proposed regulations thereunder and published rulings and decisions, all as currently in effect as of the date hereof, and all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. Tax considerations under state, local and foreign laws, or federal laws other than those pertaining to the income tax, are not addressed in this document. Determining the actual tax consequences of the merger to you may be complex. They will depend on your specific situation and on factors that are not within our control. You are strongly encouraged to consult with your own tax advisor as to the tax consequences of the merger in your particular circumstances, including the applicability and effect of the alternative minimum tax and any state, local or foreign and other tax laws and of changes in those laws.

In rendering their opinions, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP and Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP have relied upon representations of Community Bancorp and First Community and upon customary assumptions, including the assumption that the merger will be consummated in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement. Neither of these tax opinions will be binding on the Internal Revenue Service. Neither First Community nor Community Bancorp intends to request any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service as to the United States federal income tax consequences of the merger.

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*Tax Consequences of the Merger Generally.* The merger will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of section 368(a) of the Code. As a consequence:

no gain or loss will be recognized by First Community or Community Bancorp;

no gain or loss will be recognized by stockholders of Community Bancorp who receive shares of First Community common stock in exchange for shares of Community Bancorp common stock in the merger (except with respect to any cash received in the merger instead of fractional share interests in First Community common stock, which is discussed below under "Cash Received Instead of or Fractional Share of First Community Common Stock");

the aggregate basis of the First Community common stock received in the merger will be the same as the aggregate basis of the Community Bancorp common stock for which it is exchanged, less any basis attributable to fractional share interests in First Community common stock for which cash is received; and

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the holding period of First Community common stock received in exchange for shares of Community Bancorp common stock in the merger will include the holding period of the Community Bancorp common stock for which it is exchanged.

*Cash Received Instead of a Fractional Share of First Community Common Stock.* A stockholder of Community Bancorp who receives cash instead of a fractional share of First Community common stock in the merger will be treated as having received the fractional share pursuant to the merger and then as having exchanged the fractional share for cash in a redemption by First Community. As a result, a Community Bancorp stockholder will generally recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount of cash received and the basis in his or her fractional share interest as set forth above. This gain or loss will generally be capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if, as of the effective date of the merger, the holding period for such shares is greater than one year. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

*Tax Opinions as Condition to Merger.* We will not be obligated to complete the merger unless First Community receives a further opinion of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP and Community Bancorp receives a further opinion of Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, each in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to us, and dated as of the date of completion of the merger, concluding to the effect that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the merger will be treated as a reorganization within the meaning of section 368(a) of the Code, and that each of First Community and Community Bancorp will be a party to that reorganization within the meaning of section 368(b) of the Code. In rendering their opinions, counsel will require and rely upon representations contained in certificates of officers of First Community and Community Bancorp.

*Backup Withholding and Information Reporting.* Payments of cash to a holder of Community Bancorp common stock instead of a fractional share of First Community common stock may, under certain circumstances, be subject to information reporting and backup withholding unless the holder provides proof of an applicable exemption or furnishes its taxpayer identification number, and otherwise complies with applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. Any amounts withheld from payments to a holder under the backup withholding rules are not additional tax and will be allowed as a refund or credit against the holder's United States federal income tax liability, provided the required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

**The foregoing discussion does not address tax consequences which may vary with, or are contingent on, your individual circumstances. Moreover, the discussion does not address any non-income tax or any foreign, state or local tax consequences of the merger. Accordingly, you are strongly urged to consult with your tax advisor to determine the particular United States federal, state, local or foreign income or other tax consequences to you of the merger.**

## **Accounting Treatment**

The merger will be accounted for as a purchase for financial accounting purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. For purposes of preparing First Community's consolidated financial statements, First Community will establish a new accounting basis for Community Bancorp's assets and liabilities based upon their fair values, the merger consideration and the costs of the merger as of the acquisition date. First Community will record any excess of cost over the fair value of the net assets acquired, including any intangible assets with definite lives, of Community Bancorp as goodwill. A final determination of the intangible asset values and required purchase accounting adjustments, including the allocation of the purchase price to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their respective fair values, has not yet been made. First Community will determine the fair value of Community Bancorp's assets and liabilities and will make appropriate purchase accounting adjustments, including the fair value of any intangible assets with definite lives, upon completion of the merger.

## **Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger**

In considering the recommendation of the Community Bancorp board of directors, you should be aware that certain members of Community Bancorp management have certain interests in the transactions contemplated by

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the merger agreement that are in addition to the interests of Community Bancorp's stockholders generally, which may create potential conflicts of interest. The Community Bancorp board of directors was aware of these interests and considered them, among other matters, in approving the merger agreement and the contemplated transactions.

### ***Ownership of Community Bancorp Common Stock***

As of the record date, Community Bancorp's executive officers and directors beneficially owned, in the aggregate, approximately \_\_\_\_\_ shares, or approximately \_\_\_\_\_ % of Community Bancorp common stock outstanding (which percentage does not include options to purchase a total of \_\_\_\_\_ shares of Community Bancorp common stock). On consummation of the merger, Community Bancorp's executive officer and directors (1) will receive for their shares of Community Bancorp common stock, the same merger consideration per share that all of the other Community Bancorp stockholders will receive for their Community Bancorp shares and (2) like other holders of options to purchase Community Bancorp shares, will be entitled to receive, in exchange for cancellation of their options, cash equal to the amount by which the merger price per share exceeds the exercise price of their option shares.

### ***Shareholder Agreements***

Mark N. Baker, Gary W. Deems, Alan L. Douglas, G. Bruce Dunn, Robert H.S. Kirkpatrick, Philip D. Oberhansley, Thomas A. Page, Michael J. Perdue, Corey A. Seale, Thomas E. Swanson, M. Faye Wilson and Gary M. Youmans, in their capacities as shareholders of Community Bancorp, have separately entered into shareholder agreements with First Community in which they have agreed to vote all shares of Community Bancorp common stock that they owned as of the date of their respective agreements, and that they may subsequently acquire, in favor of adoption of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated therein. As of the record date, these stockholders owned, in the aggregate, \_\_\_\_\_ of the outstanding shares of the common stock of Community Bancorp, allowing them to exercise approximately \_\_\_\_\_ % of the voting power of Community Bancorp common stock (which does not include shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options that were not outstanding as of the record date).

### ***Indemnification; Directors and Officers Insurance***

For a period of four years following the effective time of the merger, First Community has agreed to indemnify present and former directors and officers of Community Bancorp in connection with any claim arising out of actions or omissions occurring at or prior to the effective time to the fullest extent that Community Bancorp is permitted to indemnify its directors and officers. In addition, First Community is obligated, for four years from the effective time, to use its commercially reasonable efforts to provide the portion of director's and officer's liability insurance that serves to reimburse the present and former directors and officers of Community Bancorp on terms and conditions comparable to those provided by Community Bancorp; provided, however, that First Community is not required to spend on an annual basis more than 100% of the current amount spent by Community Bancorp to procure such insurance coverage.

### ***Change in Control***

In June 2004, Community Bancorp and/or Community National entered into amended employment agreements with Michael J. Perdue (president), Donald W. Murray (executive vice president, chief credit officer) and Gary M. Youmans (executive vice president, SBA division) as well as a new employment agreement with Richard M. Sanborn (executive vice president, chief administrative officer). These agreements



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provide that, upon (i) a change in control and (ii) a termination without cause or a resignation with good reason within 24 months of such change in control, the executive officer will be entitled to a lump sum payment equal to 18 months of compensation (24 months in the case of Mr. Perdue) at the base salary rate then in effect plus an amount equal to all bonuses paid in the year prior to the change of control. First Community and Community Bancorp have agreed that the payments provided for in such agreements will be paid out to the respective executive officers at the effective time of the merger.

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### ***Continuing Employment Arrangements***

In connection with the merger, Messrs. Perdue, Murray, Youmans and Sanborn have been offered at-will employment with First National Bank, a banking subsidiary of First Community. The offer letters for these individuals provide that they will hold the positions of president and chief executive officer, executive vice president and chief lending officer, executive vice president and manager of the SBA group and executive vice president and chief banking officer of First National Bank, respectively. Mr. Perdue's annual salary will be \$310,000. Each of the employment arrangements also provides for certain change in control benefits in the event of the change in control of First Community, participation in various benefit programs, participation in the executive incentive bonus plan, automobile allowance and receipt of restricted stock awards from First Community. Mr. Perdue will receive 30,000 restricted stock awards which are subject to certain performance vesting requirements. In addition, Mr. Sanborn will receive 5,512 shares or a cash payment equal to such value at closing.

Other officers and employees of Community National will become at the effective time of the merger officers and employees of First National Bank, and as such will be entitled to participate in employee benefits and benefit programs of First National Bank on substantially the same terms and conditions as similarly situated officers and employees of First National Bank. Community Bancorp has adopted a severance policy by which all employees of Community National who were not offered employment with First National Bank following the effective time of the merger will receive certain severance benefits.

### ***Payments to Non-Continuing Community Bancorp Directors***

In connection with the merger, First Community will permit the payment of \$35,000 to each non-employee director of Community Bancorp reflecting the approximate economic value of certain stock awards which would have otherwise been received by such directors for their services during 2006.

### ***Appointment to the Board of Directors of First Community***

Upon consummation of the merger, Gary W. Deems, Chairman of Community Bancorp, and Mark N. Baker, director of Community Bancorp, will be appointed to the board of directors of First Community. As a non-employee director of First Community, each of Messrs. Deems and Baker will receive annual compensation for service on the First Community board during his term of office as a First Community director, which is currently set at \$50,000. The compensation paid to directors for service on the First Community board is paid quarterly. Although First Community does not pay a per board meeting fee or a per committee meeting fee, it reimburses directors for their reasonable travel, lodging, food and other expenses incurred in connection with their service on the board of directors.

### ***Restrictions on Resales by Affiliates***

The shares of First Community common stock to be issued to Community Bancorp stockholders in the merger will be registered under the Securities Act of 1933. These shares may be traded freely and without restriction by those stockholders not deemed to be affiliates of Community Bancorp. An affiliate of a corporation, as defined for purposes of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, is a person who directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, that corporation and generally may include Community Bancorp directors, executive officers and major shareholders. Any subsequent transfer of First Community common stock by an affiliate of Community Bancorp must be either permitted by the resale provisions of Rule 145

promulgated under the Securities Act or otherwise permitted under the Securities Act.

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### **Method of Effecting the Combination**

First Community may at any time change the method of effecting the acquisition of Community Bancorp and Community National Bank. However, no change may: (1) alter or change the amount or kind of consideration to be issued to holders of the common stock of Community Bancorp, as provided for in the merger agreement; (2) adversely affect the tax treatment the Community Bancorp stockholders as a result of receiving the merger consideration; (3) materially impede, delay or prevent completion of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement; or (4) otherwise be materially prejudicial to the interests of Community Bancorp stockholders.

### **Effective Time**

The effective time of the merger will be the time and date when the merger becomes effective, as set forth in the agreement of merger that will be filed with the California Secretary of State and the certificate of merger that will be filed with the Delaware Secretary of State on the closing date of the merger. The closing date will occur on the later to occur of the date: (1) on which the articles of merger have been duly filed with the California Secretary of State and (2) on which the certificate of merger has been duly filed with the Delaware Secretary of State. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the closing date may be set on any other date on which the parties may mutually agree.

We anticipate that the merger will be completed in the fourth quarter of 2006. However, completion of the merger could be delayed if there is a delay in obtaining the required regulatory approvals or in satisfying other conditions to the merger. See Regulatory Approvals Required for the Merger and The Merger Agreement Conditions to Consummation of the Merger.

### **Treatment of Options**

Prior to the consummation of the merger, the Community Bancorp board of directors will take such actions as may be necessary such that immediately prior to the effective time each option of Community Bancorp, whether or not then exercisable, will be cancelled, in exchange for which each Community Bancorp option holder will receive an amount in cash, without interest, equal to the number of Community Bancorp shares that may be purchased under his or her option, multiplied by the arithmetic difference between (1) the exercise price of that option and (2) the product of the merger exchange ratio and the average closing price for First Community common stock for the fifteen trading day period ending two business days prior to the closing date of the merger, less applicable taxes required to be withheld with respect to that cash payment.

### **Declaration and Payment of Dividends**

Holders of Community Bancorp common stock will accrue but will not be paid dividends or other distributions declared after the effective time with respect to First Community common stock into which their shares have been converted until they surrender their Community Bancorp stock certificates for exchange after the effective time. Upon surrender of those certificates after the effective time, the combined company will pay any unpaid dividends or other distributions, without interest. After the effective time, there will be no transfers on the stock transfer books of Community Bancorp of shares of Community Bancorp common stock issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time. If certificates representing shares of Community Bancorp common stock are presented for transfer after the effective time, they will be cancelled and exchanged for certificates representing the applicable number of shares of First Community common stock.

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In the merger agreement, the parties have agreed to coordinate the declaration, setting of record dates and payment dates of dividends on shares of Community Bancorp common stock and First Community common stock so that holders of shares of Community Bancorp common stock do not receive dividends on both shares of Community Bancorp common stock and shares of First Community common stock received in the merger in respect of the calendar quarter in which the closing of the merger occurs or fail to receive a dividend on either shares of Community Bancorp common stock or shares of First Community common stock received in the merger in respect of such calendar quarter.

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**No Fractional Shares**

No fractional shares of First Community common stock will be issued to any stockholder of Community Bancorp upon completion of the merger. For each fractional share that would otherwise be issued, First Community will pay cash in an amount equal to the fraction of a share of First Community common stock which the holder would otherwise be entitled to receive multiplied by the average closing price for First Community common stock for the fifteen trading day period ending two business days prior to the closing date of the merger. No interest will be paid or accrue on cash payable to holders of those certificates in lieu of fractional shares.

None of First Community, Community Bancorp, the exchange agent or any other person will be liable to any former stockholder of Community Bancorp for any amount delivered in good faith to a public official pursuant to applicable abandoned property, escheat or similar laws.

If a certificate for Community Bancorp stock has been lost, stolen or destroyed, the exchange agent will issue the consideration properly payable under the merger agreement upon the making of an affidavit by the person claiming that loss, theft or destruction and the posting of a bond in an amount reasonably necessary as indemnity against any claim that may be made against First Community with respect to that lost certificate.

For a description of First Community common stock and a description of the differences between the rights of the holders of Community Bancorp common stock, on the one hand, and the holders of First Community common stock, on the other hand, see Description of First Community Common Stock and Comparison of Rights of Holders of First Community Common Stock and Community Bancorp Common Stock.

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### **THE MERGER AGREEMENT**

*The following is a summary of selected provisions of the merger agreement. While First Community and Community Bancorp believe this description covers the material terms of the merger agreement, it may not contain all of the information that is important to you and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the merger agreement, which is incorporated by reference in its entirety into, and is attached as Appendix A to, this document. We urge you to read the merger agreement in its entirety.*

*The merger agreement contains representation, warranties, covenants and other agreements that First Community and Community Bancorp made to each other. The assertions embodied in those representations, warranties and other agreements are qualified by information in confidential disclosure schedules that First Community and Community Bancorp have exchanged in connection with signing the merger agreement. The disclosure schedules contain information that modifies, qualifies and creates exceptions to the representations, warranties, covenants and other agreements set forth in the attached merger agreement. Accordingly, you should keep in mind that the representations, warranties, covenants and other agreements are modified in important part by underlying disclosure schedules. The disclosure schedules contain information that has been included in First Community's and Community Bancorp's general prior public disclosures, as well as additional information, some of which is non-public. Neither First Community nor Community Bancorp believes that the disclosure schedules contain information that the securities laws require either or both of them to publicly disclose other than information that has already been so disclosed. Moreover, information concerning the subject matter of the representations, warranties, covenants and other agreements may have changed since the date of the merger agreement, which subsequent information may or may not be fully reflected in the companies' public disclosures.*

#### **The Merger**

Upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the merger agreement, Community Bancorp will merge with and into First Community, with First Community as the surviving entity. The separate corporate existence of Community Bancorp, with all its rights, privileges, immunities, power and franchises, will cease. Immediately subsequent to the merger, Community National Bank, a national banking association and wholly owned subsidiary of Community Bancorp, will merge with and into First National Bank, a national banking association and wholly owned subsidiary of First Community, or another wholly-owned subsidiary of First Community.

#### **Closing and Effect of the Merger**

The closing of the merger will occur no later than the third business day after the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions provided in the merger agreement, except for those conditions that by their nature are to be satisfied at the closing (but subject to the fulfillment or waiver of those conditions), or on such other date as First Community and Community Bancorp may agree in writing. See Conditions to Consummation of the Merger beginning on page 64.

The effective time of the merger will be the later to occur of the date: (1) on which the articles of merger have been filed with the California Secretary of State and (2) on which the certificate of merger has been filed with the Delaware Secretary of State. At that time, or at such later time as may be agreed by the parties and specified in the agreement of merger and the certificate of merger, the merger will become effective.

#### **Surviving Corporation's Governing Documents, Officers and Directors**

*Surviving Corporation Governing Documents.* At the effective time of the merger, the articles of incorporation and bylaws of First Community will be the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the surviving corporation as they exist immediately before the effective time, in each case until thereafter changed or amended as provided therein or by applicable laws. At the special meeting, First Community has submitted a proposal for the vote of its shareholders to amend its bylaws to increase the maximum number of directors on its board of directors from 12 to 15.



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*Surviving Corporations Officers and Directors.* At the effective time of the merger, the directors of the surviving corporation will be the directors of First Community immediately prior to the effective time and two directors from Community Bancorp, Mark N. Baker, who is the vice chairman of the board of Community Bancorp, and Gary W. Deems, who is also the current chairman of Community Bancorp, will be appointed as directors of First Community, each to hold office in accordance with the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the surviving corporation. The officers of the surviving corporation will be the officers of First Community immediately prior to the effective time, each to hold office in accordance with the articles of incorporation and bylaws of First Community, except that Michael J. Perdue, who is the current president and chief executive officer of Community Bancorp, will become president and chief executive officer of First National Bank and Robert M. Borgman, who is the current president and chief executive office of First National Bank, will become chairman of First National Bank.

## **Merger Consideration**

*Conversion of Community Bancorp Common Stock.* At the effective time of the merger, each share of Community Bancorp common stock issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time will be converted into and become exchangeable for the right to receive First Community common stock as described under *The Merger Merger Consideration*, together with the right, if any, to receive cash in lieu of fractional shares of First Community common stock. See *Fractional First Community Common Stock* below.

*First Community Common Stock.* Each outstanding share of First Community common stock will remain an outstanding share of First Community common stock and will not be converted or otherwise affected by the merger. For more information regarding First Community common stock, see *Description of First Community Common Stock*.

*Rights as Stockholders of Community Bancorp.* At the effective time, holders of Community Bancorp common stock will cease to be, and will have no rights as, stockholders of Community Bancorp other than to receive the merger consideration.

*Effect of Merger on Community Bancorp Stock Options.* For a description of the treatment of Community Bancorp stock options in the merger, see *The Merger Treatment of Options*.

*Exchange Procedures.* Promptly after the effective time of the merger, an exchange agent mutually agreed upon by First Community and Community Bancorp will provide appropriate transmittal materials to holders of record of Community Bancorp common stock, advising such holders of the procedure for surrendering their stock to the exchange agent.

Upon the surrender of the shares of Community Bancorp common stock, the holder will be entitled to receive in exchange therefor:

a certificate representing the number of whole shares of First Community common stock that such holder is entitled to receive pursuant to the merger, as described in *Conversion of Community Bancorp Common Stock* above; and

a check in the amount, after giving effect to any required tax withholdings, of any cash payable in lieu of fractional shares plus any unpaid non-stock dividends and any other dividends or other distributions that such holder has the right to receive as described in the next paragraph.

For purposes of dividends or distributions, all shares of First Community common stock to be issued pursuant to the merger will be deemed issued and outstanding as of the effective time of the merger. Whenever a dividend or other distribution is declared by First Community in respect of First Community common stock, the record date for which is at or after the effective time of the merger, that declaration will include dividends or other distributions in respect of all shares issuable pursuant to the merger agreement. No dividends or other distributions in respect of First Community common stock shall be paid to any holder of any unsurrendered shares of Community Bancorp common stock until the unsurrendered shares of Community Bancorp common stock are surrendered for exchange.

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*Fractional First Community Common Stock.* No fractional shares of First Community common stock will be issued to any stockholder of Community Bancorp upon completion of the merger. For each fractional share that would otherwise be issued, First Community will pay cash in an amount equal to the fraction of a share of First Community common stock which the holder would otherwise be entitled to receive multiplied by the average closing price of First Community common stock. No interest will be paid or accrue on cash payable to holders of those certificates in lieu of fractional shares.

**Representations and Warranties**

The merger agreement contains substantially similar representations and warranties of First Community and Community Bancorp as to, among other things:

corporate organization and existence;

capitalization;

the corporate organization and existence of any subsidiaries;

corporate power and authority;

no conflicts, required filings, third party consents and governmental approvals required to complete the merger;

compliance with laws and permits;

availability, accuracy and compliance with generally accepted accounting principles of financial reports and filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission and regulatory authorities;

timely filing of required regulatory reports and absence of regulatory investigations or restrictive agreements with regulators;

absence of litigation;

tax matters;

no broker's or finder's fees, except as contemplated by the merger agreement; and

compliance with laws.

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In addition, the merger agreement contains further representations and warranties of Community Bancorp as to, among other things:

validity of, and the absence of defaults under, certain contracts;

employee benefit matters;

labor matters;

environmental matters;

interest rate risk management instruments, such as swaps and options;

proper and accurate maintenance of books and records;

insurance coverage;

adequacy of its allowance for loan losses under established regulatory and accounting standards;

transactions with affiliates;

condition and title to real and personal property;

the absence of a trust business;

intellectual property; and

shares subject to shareholder agreements.

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### **Conduct of Business of Community Bancorp Pending the Merger**

Prior to the effective time, except as expressly contemplated by the merger agreement, Community Bancorp has agreed that, without the consent of First Community, it will not and will cause its subsidiaries not to, among other things:

#### ***Ordinary Course of Business; Adverse Effects***

conduct its business other than in the ordinary and usual course or fail to use its reasonable best efforts to preserve its business organization and assets intact and maintain its rights, franchises and existing relations and goodwill with customers, suppliers, creditors, lessors, lessees, employees and business associates;

take any action that would be reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on Community Bancorp; or

take any action that would adversely affect or delay the ability of Community Bancorp or First Community to perform any of their obligations under the merger agreement or knowingly take any action that would reasonably be expected to materially impede, delay or adversely affect the ability of Community Bancorp or its subsidiaries to consummate the merger and other transactions contemplated in the merger agreement.

#### ***Capital Stock***

issue, sell, pledge, dispose of, encumber, permit to become outstanding or authorize the creation of any shares of capital stock or any rights; or

permit any additional shares of capital stock of Community Bancorp or any of its subsidiaries to become subject to grants of employees or director stock options, other rights or similar stock-based employee rights.

#### ***Dividends and Stock Repurchases***

make, declare, pay or set aside for payment any dividend payable in cash, stock or property on its capital stock, except for dividends paid by any direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Community Bancorp to Community Bancorp or any of its other subsidiaries and except for quarterly dividends on Community Bancorp's common stock not to exceed \$0.125 per share; or

directly or indirectly adjust, split, combine, redeem, reclassify, purchase or otherwise acquire any shares of its capital stock.

#### ***Compensation***

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enter into, amend or renew any employment, consulting, severance or similar agreements or increase in any manner the compensation or benefits of any of its employees or directors, except for:

normal increases for employees made in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice, provided that no increase shall result in an annual adjustment of more than 5%; or

other changes required by applicable law

grant or approve the grant of any stock options or awards under Community Bancorp's stock option plans.

### ***Hiring***

hire any person as an employee of Community Bancorp or any of its subsidiaries or promote any employee except:

to fill a vacancy with an employee whose employment is terminable at will; and

to fill any vacancy with a new employee whose base salary and bonus do not exceed \$75,000 on an annual basis.

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### ***Benefit Plans***

enter into, terminate, establish, adopt or amend any benefit plans or take any action to accelerate the vesting, accrual or fun or in any way secure payment of or exercisability of stock options, restricted stock, or other compensation or benefits payable thereunder;

amend or modify any Community Bancorp option plan or enter into, amend or modify any option or award agreement under any stock option plan or take any other action which has the effect of increasing Community Bancorp's obligations or liabilities pursuant to any stock option plan.

### ***Dispositions***

sell, transfer, lease, license, guarantee, mortgage, pledge, encumber or otherwise create any lien on, dispose of or discontinue any of its assets, deposits, business or properties other than in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice and in a transaction that together with all other such transactions is not material to Community Bancorp and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

### ***Acquisitions***

acquire, other than by way of foreclosures or acquisitions of control in a bona fide fiduciary capacity or in satisfaction of debts previously contracted, each in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice, all or any portion of the assets, business, deposits or properties of any other person except in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice and in a transaction that together with all other such transactions is not material to Community Bancorp and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

### ***Capital Expenditures***

make any capital expenditures other than in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice in amounts not to exceed \$25,000 individually or \$500,000 in the aggregate.

### ***Amendments to Governing Documents***

amend Community Bancorp's certificate of incorporation or bylaws or the organizational documents of any of its subsidiaries.

### ***Accounting Methods***

implement or adopt any change in Community Bancorp's book or tax accounting principles, practices or methods, other than as may be required by GAAP, and as concurred in by Community Bancorp's independent public accountants, or as otherwise required in the merger agreement.

*Contracts*

enter into, renew, modify, amend or terminate or make any payment not then required under any contract, or waive, release or assign any material right or claim under any contract that calls for aggregate annual payments of \$25,000 or more which is not terminable at will or with 30 days or less notice without payment of a premium or penalty, other than loans or other transactions made in the ordinary course of the banking business.

*Settlement of Claims*

enter into any settlement or similar agreement with respect to, or take any other significant action with respect to the conduct of any action, suit, proceeding or investigation that Community Bancorp or any of



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its subsidiaries is or becomes a party to, which settlement, agreement or action involves payment, in excess of \$50,000 individually or \$100,000 in the aggregate and/or would impose any material restriction on the business of the surviving corporation or create precedent for claims reasonably likely to be material to Community Bancorp and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

### ***Adverse Actions***

take any action or omit to take any action that would reasonably be likely to result in:

any of Community Bancorp's representations or warranties set forth in the merger agreement being or becoming untrue in any material respect;

a condition to the merger not being satisfied; or

a material violation of any provision of the merger agreement, except as may be required by applicable law.

### ***Risk Management***

except as required by law or regulation, implement or adopt any material change to interest rate or other risk management policies, fail to follow Community Bancorp's or its applicable subsidiary's existing policies with respect to managing exposure to interest rate and other risk, or fail to use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid any material increase in its aggregate exposure to interest rate risk.

### ***Indebtedness***

incur any indebtedness for borrowed money or other liability (other than deposits, federal funds borrowings and borrowings from the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco) or assume, guarantee, endorse or otherwise as an accommodation become responsible for the obligations of any other person.

### ***Loans***

make any loan, loan commitment, renewal or extension to any person or any affiliate or immediate family member of such person exceeding, in the aggregate, \$3,000,000, or purchase or sell any loan or loan participation; or

forgive any loans to directors, officers or employees of Community Bancorp.

### ***Investments***

other