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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event Reported): March 28, 2016

CONNECTONE BANCORP, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

New Jersey
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation)

001-11486
(Commission File Number)

52-1273725
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

301 Sylvan Avenue, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey 07632
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(201) 816-8900
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 8.01. Other Events.

On March 28, 2016, ConnectOne Bancorp, Inc. issued a press release announcing that it had redeemed all \$11.25 million outstanding of preferred stock issued to the United States Department of the Treasury in connection with the Small Business Lending Fund. The press release is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibit

99.1 Press Release, dated March 28, 2016

SIGNATURE

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

CONNECTONE BANCORP, INC.

Date: March 28, 2016

By: /s/ William S. Burns

Name: William S. Burns

Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

ConnectOne Bancorp, Inc. Announces Redemption of SBLF Preferred

ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS, N.J., March 28, 2016 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- ConnectOne Bancorp, Inc. (Nasdaq:CNOB) (the "Company" or "ConnectOne"), parent company of ConnectOne Bank (the "Bank"), today announced it had redeemed all \$11.25 million outstanding preferred stock issued to the Department of the Treasury in connection with the Small Business Lending Fund ("SBLF"). The dividend rate on the preferred stock, which had been 1%, would have increased to 9%. The redemption was financed with a portion of the proceeds of a June 30, 2015 \$50 million subordinated debt issuance. At year-end 2015, the Company had consolidated assets of \$4.0 billion and tangible capital of \$327.5 million, and the Bank's regulatory leverage ratio was 9.96%

About ConnectOne Bancorp, Inc.

ConnectOne is a New Jersey corporation and a registered bank holding company pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended, and serves as the holding company for ConnectOne Bank ("the Bank"). The Bank is a community-based, full-service New Jersey-chartered commercial bank that was founded in 2005. The Bank operates from its headquarters located at 301 Sylvan Avenue in the Borough of Englewood Cliffs, Bergen County, New Jersey, and through its 21 other banking offices.

For more information visit <https://www.ConnectOneBank.com/>.

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains certain forward-looking statements which are based on certain assumptions and describe future plans, strategies and expectations of the Company. These forward-looking statements are generally identified by use of the words "believe," "expect," "intend," "anticipate," "estimate," "project," or similar expressions. The Company's ability to predict results or the actual effect of future plans or strategies is inherently uncertain. Factors which could have a material adverse effect on the operations of the Company and its subsidiaries include, but are not limited to, those factors set forth in Item 1A – Risk Factors of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, as filed with the Securities Exchange Commission, and changes in interest rates, general economic conditions, legislative/regulatory changes, monetary and fiscal policies of the U.S. Government, including policies of the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board, the quality or composition of the loan or investment portfolios, demand for loan products, deposit flows, competition, demand for financial services in the Company's market area and accounting principles and guidelines. These risks and uncertainties should be considered in evaluating forward-looking statements and undue reliance should not be placed on such statements. The Company does not undertake, and specifically disclaims any obligation, to publicly release the result of any revisions which may be made to any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of such statements or to reflect the occurrence of anticipated or unanticipated events.

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