

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 26 February 2024



North Valley Bancshares, Inc. Announces Acquisition of Commodore Financial Network, Inc.

On February 26, 2024, North Valley Bancshares, Inc., (“NVBI”) the parent company of North Valley Bank, Zanesville, Ohio, and Commodore Financial Network, Inc., (“CFNI”) the parent company of Commodore Bank, Somerset, Ohio, announced that the two organizations have signed a definitive agreement for NVBI to acquire CFNI in an all-cash transaction. Financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

The board directors from both institutions have unanimously approved the transaction, which is expected to close in the second or third quarter of 2024, subject to customary closing conditions, the approval of CFNI’s shareholders, and regulatory approvals.

Upon completion of the transaction, the Somerset, Millersport and Hebron locations of Commodore Bank will operate as branches of North Valley Bank.

“Today, we are thrilled to announce the signing of an agreement to acquire Commodore Bank, marking a significant milestone in our journey of growth and commitment to serving local communities. This combination aligns perfectly with our vision of expanding our footprint and enhancing our ability to deliver exceptional financial services to even more individuals and businesses while pursuing our vision of Building Better Communities,” said North Valley Bank President & CEO Jim Nicholson.

“Commodore Bank has built a strong reputation for its dedication to local customer service, community involvement, and financial expertise, values that closely mirror our own. By joining forces, we will not only strengthen our presence in the Buckeye Lake region along with a physical location in Somerset, but also deepen our connections with the residents and businesses that make these communities thrive.

We are excited about the opportunities this partnership brings and are committed to preserving the unique history and values of Commodore Bank while leveraging our combined strengths to deliver even greater value to our customers. Together, we look forward to shaping a brighter financial future for all those we serve.”

Commodore Bank and Financial Network President and CEO Charles O. Moore commented “Commodore Bank is proud of its 95-year history of serving our customers and communities in Somerset, and the Buckeye Lake region. In 2023, we embarked on an exhaustive search for the right partner for our organization; North Valley Bank was the ideal choice to preserve our commitment to the community banking values we maintain while moving forward in today’s complex business environment. Commodore Bank’s board of directors and management team are delighted with the opportunities that the combined organization will offer to our customers, staff and most importantly the communities we serve.”

Hovde Group, LLC acted as financial advisor and Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP served as legal counsel to NVBI. Donnelly Penman & Partners, Inc. acted as financial advisor and Dinsmore & Shohl LLP served as legal counsel to CFNI.

About North Valley Bancshares, Inc.

North Valley Bancshares, Inc. is the parent company of North Valley Bank, Zanesville, Ohio, a community bank with seven full-service offices serving Licking, Madison, Morgan, Muskingum, Perry and Pickaway Counties. North Valley Bank also operates two business banking centers in Pataskala and downtown Zanesville. North Valley Bank is designated as a Preferred Lender by the Small Business Administration. As of December 31, 2023, North Valley Bank had \$312 million in total assets.

About Commodore Financial Services, Inc.

Commodore Financial Network, Inc. is the parent company of Commodore Bank, Somerset, Ohio, a community bank with three full-service offices serving Fairfield, Licking and Perry Counties. As of December 31, 2023, Commodore Bank had \$89 million in total assets.

For additional information, contact:

Jim Nicholson, President and CEO, North Valley Bank
jnicholson@nvboh.bank (740) 450-2265 x238

Charles O. Moore, President and CEO, Commodore Bank
cmoore@commodorebank.com (740-928-2266)