

Item 8.01. Other Events

On August 9, 2011, Meridian Interstate Bancorp, Inc. (the Registrant) announced that it has completed its third repurchase program, which consisted of 472,428 shares at an average price of \$12.53 and adopted a fourth repurchase program for up to 904,224 shares of its common stock. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibit 99 Press release dated August 9, 2011

SIGNATURES

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

**MERIDIAN INTERSTATE BANCORP,
INC.**

DATE: August 9, 2011

By: /s/ Richard J. Gavegnano
Richard J. Gavegnano
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Exhibit
99	Press release dated August 9, 2011