STERLING BANCORP Form 8-K May 02, 2008

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 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) May 1, 2008 Commission File Number: 1-5273-1 Sterling Bancorp

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

New York

(State of other jurisdiction of incorporation)

Identification No.) 10019-6108

(Zip Code)

13-2565216

(IRS Employer

650 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York

(Address of principal executive offices)

(212) 757- 3300

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code) N/A

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report) 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:

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

o 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)

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17CFR 240.13e-4(c)

<u>ITEM 8.01</u> OTHER EVENTS

On May 1, 2008, the Company announced the declaration of a cash dividend of \$0.19 per common share payable on June 30, 2008 to shareholders of record on June 15, 2008.

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.

DATE: May 2, 2008

BY: /s/ JOHN W. TIETJEN

JOHN W. TIETJEN Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer