STERLING BANCORP Form 8-K May 02, 2006

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) <u>May 1, 2006</u> Commission File Number: <u>1-5273-1</u> Sterling Bancorp (Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

New York

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(State of other jurisdiction of incorporation)

650 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York

(Address of principal executive offices)

<u>(212) 757- 3300</u>

(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)

o 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)

13-2565216

(Zip Code)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

10019-6108

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ITEM 7.01 REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

On May 1, 2006, the Company issued a press release announcing that it will be added to the S&P SmallCap 600 index effective the close of business on May 3, 2006. The Company s press release is included as Exhibit 99.1. On May 1, 2006, the Company issued a press release announcing the planned opening of its newest Queens branch to be located at 80-00 Sutphin Boulevard in Jamaica, New York. The Company s press release is included as Exhibit 99.2.

<u>ITEM 9.01</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

- (c) Exhibits
 - 99.1 Press release dated May 1, 2006 (furnished pursuant to Item 7.01).
 - 99.2 Press release dated May 1, 2006 (furnished pursuant to Item 7.01).

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, 2006

BY: /s/ JOHN W. TIETJEN

JOHN W. TIETJEN Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number

- 99.1 Press Release dated May 1, 2006
- 99.2 Press Release dated May 1, 2006