

STERLING FINANCIAL CORP /WA/  
Form 8-K  
March 01, 2013

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

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FORM 8-K  
CURRENT REPORT

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

Date of report: February 28, 2013  
(Date of earliest event reported)

Sterling Financial Corporation		
(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)		
Washington	001-34696	91-1572822
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

111 North Wall Street, Spokane, Washington 99201  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

(509) 358-8097  
(Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code)

Not Applicable  
(Former Name or Former Address, 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:

- 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))

Item 8.01. Other Events.

On February 28, 2013, Sterling Financial Corporation (“Sterling”) completed its acquisition of American Heritage Holdings. Immediately following the acquisition, American Heritage Holding’s subsidiary Borrego Springs Bank, NA, was merged with and into Sterling’s principal operating subsidiary, Sterling Savings Bank.

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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.

STERLING FINANCIAL CORPORATION

(Registrant)

March 1, 2013 By: /s/ Patrick J. Rusnak

Date Patrick J. Rusnak

Chief Financial Officer