

SANDY SPRING BANCORP INC  
Form 8-K  
March 18, 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): **March 18, 2008**

**SANDY SPRING BANCORP, INC.**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<b><u>Maryland</u></b> (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	<b><u>000-19065</u></b> (Commission File Number)	<b><u>52-1532952</u></b> (IRS Employer Identification No.)
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**17801 Georgia Avenue, Olney, Maryland 20832**  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(301) 774-6400**

**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))
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**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

Sandy Spring Bancorp, Inc. is distributing the letter to shareholders included in Exhibit 99.1 hereto, together with its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, and its proxy statement for the annual meeting of shareholders, beginning on or about March 18, 2008.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Other Exhibits.**

Exhibit 99.1 Letter to shareholders

**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.

**SANDY SPRING BANCORP, INC.**  
*(Registrant)*

Date: March 18, 2008

By: /s/ Hunter R.  
Hollar  
Hunter R. Hollar  
President and Chief Executive  
Officer