

BANNER CORP  
Form 8-K  
April 27, 2012

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 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): April 27, 2012

Banner Corporation  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Washington (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	0-26584 (Commission File Number)	91-1691604 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
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10 S. First Avenue  
Walla Walla, Washington 99362  
(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

(509) 527-3636  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 April 27, 2012, Banner Corporation (the “Company”) announced that the Company’s Board of Directors declared a regularly quarterly cash dividend of \$12.50 per share on the Company’s Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series A (“Preferred Stock”). Shareholders of the Company’s preferred stock at the close of business on May 8, 2012 will be entitled to receive the cash dividend. The cash dividend will be payable on May 15, 2012.

The news release announcing the quarterly cash dividend on the Preferred Stock is attached as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibits are being filed herewith and this list shall constitute the exhibit index:

99.1 News release regarding the cash dividend dated April 27, 2012

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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.

BANNER CORPORATION

Date: April 27, 2012

By: /s/Lloyd W. Baker  
Lloyd W. Baker  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

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