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BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP INC

Form 8-K

October 05, 2006

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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) October 4, 2006

BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Delaware ----- (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) | 0-51584 ----- (Commission File Number) | 04-3510455 ----- (IRS Employer Identification No.) |
|--|---|---|

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 24 North Street, Pittsfield, Massachusetts ----- (Address of principal executive offices) | 01201 ----- (Zip Code) |
|---|------------------------------|

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (413) 443-5601

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.

On October 4, 2006, Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc., the holding company of Berkshire Bank (the "Bank") issued a press release announcing the hiring of John J. Howard, who was recently named Executive Vice President in charge of Retail Banking. The press release dated October 4, 2006 is included as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

- (a) Financial Statements of Businesses Acquired: Not applicable
- (b) Pro Forma Financial Information: Not applicable
- (c) Shell Company Transactions: Not applicable
- (d) Exhibits

| Number ----- | Description ----- |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 99.1 | Press Release Dated October 4, 2006 |

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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.

BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP, INC.

Dated: October 4, 2006

By: /s/ Wayne F. Patenaude

Wayne F. Patenaude
Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer