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BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP INC

Form 8-K

November 16, 2005

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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) November 14, 2005  
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BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP, INC.  
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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

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

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (413) 443-5601  
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Not Applicable  
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(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 5.02 DEPARTURE OF DIRECTORS OR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS; ELECTION OF DIRECTORS;  
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APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.  
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On November 14, 2005, Peter J. Lafayette, a member of the boards of directors of Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. (the "Company") and Berkshire Bank (the "Bank"), announced that he would retire from both boards effective January 1, 2006. Beginning on or about January 16, 2006, Mr. Lafayette will become Executive Director of the Berkshire Bank Foundation and the Greater Berkshire Foundation. A copy of the Company's press release dated November 14, 2005 announcing these events is attached as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.  
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- (a) Financial Statements of Businesses Acquired: Not applicable
- (b) Pro Forma Financial Information: Not applicable
- (c) Exhibits

| Number<br>----- | Description<br>-----                  |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 99.1            | Press Release Dated November 14, 2005 |

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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: November 15, 2005

By: /s/ Wayne F. Patenaude  
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Wayne F. Patenaude  
Senior Vice President and Chief  
Financial Officer