#### BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP INC

Form 4

March 02, 2006

# FORM 4

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**OMB APPROVAL** 

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES** 

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

may continue. See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * FAWCETT GAYLE P |               |          | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading<br>Symbol<br>BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP<br>INC [(BHLB)] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable)                          |  |  |
|---|---------------|----------|--|---|--|--|
| (Last) 24 NORTH S   | (First) TREET | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction<br>(Month/Day/Year)<br>03/01/2006                                | Director 10% Owner Sylvary Officer (give title Other (specify below) SVP of Subsidiary Bank       |  |  |
|   | (Street)      |          | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)   | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person |  |  |
| PITTSFIELD, MA 01201                                      |               |          |  | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  |  |  |

| (City)                               | (State) (                            | (Zip) Table   | e I - Non-D                             | Perivative   | Secur                        | ities Acq      | uired, Disposed o  | f, or Beneficial   | ly Owned  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------|------------------------------|----------------|--|--|---|
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | (Instr. 3,   | ispose<br>4 and<br>(A)<br>or | d of (D)<br>5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 03/01/2006                           |   | Code V<br>S                             | Amount 1,600 | (D)                          | Price \$ 33    | 9,193  | D  |   |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 03/01/2006                           |   | S                                       | 2,000        | D                            | \$<br>33.25    | 7,193  | D  |   |
| Common<br>Stock                      |                                      |   |   |              |                              |                | 9,889 (1)  | I  | By 401(k)   |
| Common<br>Stock                      |                                      |   |   |              |                              |                | 5,486 <u>(1)</u>   | I  | By ESOP   |
| Common<br>Stock                      |                                      |   |   |              |                              |                | 5,944  | I  | By Stock<br>Award II  |

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| Common<br>Stock | 500   | I | By Stock<br>Award III |
|-----------------|-------|---|-----------------------|
| Common<br>Stock | 1,370 | I | By Stock<br>Award IV  |
| Common<br>Stock | 3,000 | I | By Stock<br>Award V   |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transactic<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, |                  |                    | 7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and | Securities                      |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|------------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|   |   |   |   | Code V                                 | 4, and 5) (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title                                     | Amoun<br>or<br>Numbe<br>of Shar |
| Stock Option (right-to-buy)                         | \$ 16.75  |   |   |  |   | 01/30/2002(6)    | 01/30/2011         | Common<br>Stock                           | 10,23                           |
| Stock Option (right-to-buy)                         | \$ 22.3   |   |   |  |   | 01/30/2004(7)    | 01/30/2013         | Common<br>Stock                           | 9,652                           |
| Stock Option (right-to-buy)                         | \$ 37.8   |   |   |  |   | 01/30/2006       | 01/30/2014         | Common<br>Stock                           | 2,000                           |

# **Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                             | Relationships |           |                        |       |  |  |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------------|-------|--|--|
| reporting owner runner runners                             | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                | Other |  |  |
| FAWCETT GAYLE P<br>24 NORTH STREET<br>PITTSFIELD, MA 01201 |               |           | SVP of Subsidiary Bank |       |  |  |

Reporting Owners 2

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## **Signatures**

By: /s/ Gerald A. Denmark, Power of Attorney

03/02/2006

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) This form reflects an increase in beneficial ownership resulting from an exempt acquisition pursuant to Rule 16b-3(c).
- (2) Stock Awards granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2001 Stock-Based Incentive Plan vest in five equal annual installments commencing on January 30, 2004.
- (3) Stock Awards granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2003 Equity Compensation Plan will vest in three equal annual installments commencing on January 30, 2005.
- (4) Stock Awards granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2003 Equity Compensation Plan vest in three equal annual installments commencing on January 30, 2006.
- (5) Stock Awards granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2003 Equity Compensation Plan vest in three equal annual installments commencing on January 30, 2007.
- (6) Stock Options are fully vested and exercisable.
- (7) Stock Options granted pursuant to the Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. 2001 Stock-Based Incentive Plan vest in five equal annual installments commencing on January 30, 2004.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

Signatures 3