

BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP INC  
Form 8-K  
October 03, 2017  
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 3, 2017

BERKSHIRE HILLS BANCORP, INC.  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

<u>Delaware</u>	<u>001-15781</u>	<u>04-3510455</u>
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	(Commission File No.)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

24 North Street, Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- 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))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the

Exchange Act. [ ]

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Item 8.01 Other Events

On October 3, 2017, Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. (the "Company"), the holding company for Berkshire Bank (the "Bank"), announced that all regulatory approvals relating to the merger of Commerce Bancshares Corp. with and into the Company have been received. Commerce Bancshares Corp. shareholders previously approved the merger at a special meeting of shareholders on September 21, 2017. The merger is anticipated to close on or about October 13, 2017.

A copy of the press release announcing the receipt of required approvals to acquire Commerce Bancshares Corp. and the targeted closing date of the pending merger is being filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

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.

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Joint News Release dated October 3, 2017

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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.

DATE: October 3, 2017 By: /s/ Wm. Gordon Prescott  
Wm. Gordon Prescott  
Senior Vice President and General Counsel